

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 16th December 1905.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		(h)—General—	
The recent demonstration against Turkey ...	1175	Government and the <i>Swadeshi</i> ...	1179
The Macedonian question and Sultan of Turkey ...	ib.	The special constables in Rangpur ...	ib.
The Jewish massacre in Russia and the Powers ...	ib.	Lord Minto and the partition ...	ib.
Persia and her duty ...	ib.	The situation at Mymensingh ...	1180
		The Magistrate of Mymensingh ...	ib.
		Certain incidents in Mymensingh ...	1181
		Appointment of Special Constables at Andul in the	
		Howrah district ...	ib.
		The special constables at Andul ...	1182
		Situation at Andul ...	ib.
		Certain rumours at Chittagong ...	ib.
		Government and the <i>Swadeshi</i> agitation ...	1183
		"Attempt to stop <i>Swadeshi</i> agitation with <i>lathies</i> " ...	ib.
		A notice issued by Mr. Forrest, Magistrate of	
		Howrah ...	ib.
		Mr. Forrest's notice ...	ib.
		A notice by the Magistrate of Howrah ...	ib.
		Mr. Forrest's notice ...	1184
		Mr. Forrest's notice ...	ib.
		The Viceroy's refusal to receive certain Members of	
		the Bengal Council ...	ib.
		The Viceroy's refusal to receive certain deputation	ib.
		Lord Minto's recent refusal to receive certain	
		addresses and deputations ...	ib.
		Lord Minto and the suggested deputation of certain	
		Members of the Bengal Council regarding the	
		situation in East Bengal ...	1185
		Deputation rejected by Lord Minto ...	ib.
		A poem ...	ib.
		Mr. Fuller's administrative policy ...	ib.
		Mr. Fuller ...	1187
		Mr. Fuller in Rangpur ...	ib.
		The situation ...	ib.
		Alleged official oppression in Bengal ...	ib.
		Mr. Fuller's repressive measures ...	1188
		Terrifying news from the new province ...	ib.
		The object of Mr. Fuller's visit to the Government	
		House ...	ib.
		The situation in Eastern Bengal ...	ib.
		Gurkha oppression at Barisal ...	ib.
		"Shaista Khan II or Nidar Shah, which?" ...	1189
		In praise of Mr. Maude, lately Divisional Commis-	
		sioner of Chittagong ...	ib.
		In praise of Mr. Bentinck, lately Joint-Magistrate	
		at Chittagong ...	ib.
		Who should be Secretary of State for India? ...	ib.
		The Royal visit ...	ib.
		The rumour of the impending resignation of Sir	
		Andrew Fraser ...	ib.
		The Government Revenue Administration Report ...	ib.
		Oppression upon villagers in Contai ...	ib.
		Mr. Gait's circular on the association of the police	
		with District Boards, etc. ...	1190
		III.—LEGISLATION.	
		An interpellation in the last sitting of the Bengal	
		Council ...	1190
		The <i>Swadeshi</i> ...	ib.
		IV.—NATIVE STATES.	
		A cartoon ...	1190
		Landed proprietorship of Englishmen in Native	
		States ...	1191
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.			
(a)—Police—			
Special constables at Andul ...	1176		
The police and the <i>Swadeshi</i> movement ...	ib.		
Calcutta police ...	ib.		
The Police in Barisal ...	ib.		
Crime in Bongong ...	ib.		
(b)—Working of the Courts—			
A Police case ...	1176		
Mr. Kingsford and the Shyampukur disturbance in			
Calcutta ...	1177		
Magistrates and the present agitation ...	ib.		
(c)—Jails—			
Nil.			
(d)—Education—			
The educational budget of the Malda District			
Board ...	1177		
Counsel to the student community of Chittagong ...	ib.		
Alleged injustice to the students of the Engineer-			
ing College, Sibpur ...	ib.		
The <i>Bande Mataram</i> cry at Burdwan ...	ib.		
The question of moral education of students ...	1178		
Musalmans and the National University ...	ib.		
Students and their English masters ...	1179		
(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administra-			
tion—			
The address of the Calcutta Corporation ...	1179		
(f)—Questions affecting the land—			
Nil.			
(g)—Railways and communications, including canals			
and irrigation—			
An appeal to the Maharajadhiraj Bahadur of			
Burdwan ...	1179		

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Reported distress in Tippera	...	1191
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VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

A poem	...	1191
The accession of the Liberals to power	...	ib.
The Liberal Government and the <i>Swadeshi</i> movement	...	ib.
The British Ministry	...	1192
"A severe rebuff"	...	ib.
"A certain lecture"	...	ib.
Certain speakers on the <i>Swadeshi</i> agitation in Calcutta	...	ib.
Students and political agitations	...	ib.
Welcome to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales	...	1193
The Royal visit	...	ib.
The Royal tour through India	...	ib.
The Royal visit to Calcutta	...	ib.
The Prince of Wales in Calcutta	...	ib.
"Two parties"	...	1194
Foreign sugar	...	ib.
A serious allegation in connexion with the <i>purda</i> party at Belvedere	...	ib.
The <i>Zanana</i> Darbar at Belvedere	...	ib.
An allegation in connection with the Bethune College, Calcutta	...	ib.
Charge of cowardice against Bengali Hindus	...	ib.
The attitude of the English towards their Indian subjects	...	1195
Mr. Fuller and the <i>Swadeshi</i> movement	...	ib.
India's future destiny	...	ib.
The English and the Indians: their mutual relations	...	ib.
An article in a certain native newspaper strongly condemned	...	1196
The Government and the <i>Swadeshi</i> movement	...	ib.
"Shaista Khan the Second."	...	1197

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS—concl.

A poem	...	1197
The control of the education and commerce of the country	...	ib.
Lord Minto	...	ib.

URIYA PAPERS.

The prospects of crops in Barpali State	...	1198
Want of water in the Puri district	...	ib.
The paddy crop in the Puri district	...	ib.
The health of the Cuttack district	...	ib.
Cholera in Jajpur	...	ib.
Health of the Balasore district	...	ib.
A tiger in Dhenkanal	...	ib.
Mad jackals in Jajpur	...	ib.
The tiger scare in Mayurbhanj	...	ib.
The elephant scare in Mayurbhanj	...	ib.
A tiger-catching machine under construction	...	ib.
A suggestion for the development of silk industry in Orissa Tributary State	...	ib.
An appeal in behalf of the domiciled Bengalis	...	ib.
An <i>anti-Swadeshi</i> railway station master in Balasore	1199	
The leader of <i>Swadeshi</i> students in Puri renouncing his leadership	...	ib.
The hold of <i>Swadeshim</i> slackened in Jajpur	...	ib.
The prospects of <i>Swadeshim</i> in Balasore	...	ib.
The prayer of the residents of Fuljhar and Padmapur in the Sambalpur district	...	ib.
The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal thanked	...	ib.
Admission of Mr. Mitra into Puri temple	...	ib.
The proposed Anglo-Russian Treaty	...	ib.
The bearing of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty on the loyalty of the Indians	...	ib.
Mismanagement of the Baripada Branch Railway	...	ib.

ASSAM PAPERS.

Veterinary doctors in Assam	...	1200
The Sylhet jail	...	ib.
Government and the <i>Swadeshi</i> agitation	...	ib.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

REFERRING to the recent demonstration by the Powers against Turkey, the

Mihir-o-Sudhakar,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

The recent demonstration
against Turkey.

Mihir-o-Sudhakar [Calcutta] of the 8th December writes that it is time that the British Government made a departure from the Gladstonian policy of hostility to Turkey. England has never been a gainer by going against Turkey and never will. The British Government rules over the largest Musalman population on earth, and it should maintain friendly relations with the Sultan if only to conciliate this population. The Sultan is the leader of the Indian Musalmans in matters religious, as the British Emperor is in matters worldly. And any difference of opinion between these two potentates would cause the greatest amount of grief to all Musalmans.

2. Referring to the meeting held by the Musalmans of Madras at which

Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

The Macedonian question and
the Sultan of Turkey.

it was resolved to appeal to His Majesty's Government to adopt a policy of neutrality in the Macedonian question in favour of the Sultan of Turkey, the *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 11th December says that England's co-operation with other Powers may displease the Musalmans. His Majesty's Musalman subjects of India, loyal as they are, cannot, according to the tenets of their religion, withhold their allegiance to the Sultan of Turkey who is the head of the Muhammadan religion.

3. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 9th December says that when it

Bharat Mitra,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

The Jewish massacre in Russia
and the Powers.

became known that the Turks were committing atrocities in Armenia, Mr. Gladstone, with whole Europe at his back, denounced the Sultan of Turkey at the top of his voice. But now that the Jews are being so mercilessly massacred in Russia, no Power thinks it worth its while to utter a single word for the unfortunate Jews, but looks on as a silent spectator.

4. The *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 11th Decem-

Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

Persia and her duty.

ber warns such officials of his country as are in sympathy with the Europeans, to guard against the possible danger to their country arising out of an Anglo-Russian alliance.

The paper quotes one of the learned, who says that he who betrays his country and his people to foreigners is not worthy to be made even a keeper of the swine though he may receive a golden crown from the latter, thus alluding to that class of the Persians who, by receiving European education and adopting European costume, expect to get high places, next only to the Premier.

The state of things in Africa and Asia are cited in way of illustration. It is about a century, says the paper, that the Europeans have commenced their conquering enterprize on these continents, but there is not a single instance in which a betrayer of his country has been honoured with a high position. The conquerors bearing in mind the proverb that "he who mishaves with his mother is capable of committing any crime in respect of others." The betrayers are only employed as tools to gain their end, and no sooner their object is gained then efforts are made to do away with their life.

It is more than a hundred and fifty years that the English have set foot in India, but no one except the Bengalis have been able to understand their policy, and hence once insignificant, the race is now holding a prominent place in the Indian politics. Ancient nobility has been swept away, and the descendants of those who acted as traitors are looked down upon both by the Government as well as their countrymen.

Persia boasts of having more than twenty thousand of her sons conversant with European languages, but their experience is so limited as to make them hardly fit to hold responsible posts under Government, and render any important service to the State.

When the Helmund Commission started from India, *Hablul Mateen* discussed the question in its columns, but one of its correspondents dissuaded the paper from doing so as he considered such discussion sheer waste of labour since the Government did not put the right man in the right place.

The paper exhorts the great men of Persia to go with the times which are now changed for their own self-preservation if not for the good of the State.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

5. It is amusing to find, says the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December, that among the gentlemen who have been appointed special constables at Andul under the Sankrail thana in the Howrah district, there are some who are old, infirm or invalid. No one ever suspected a breach of the peace in the Andul village in consequence of the *Swadeshi* movement. A private grudge led a clerk in the employ of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to move the District Magistrate of Howrah in the matter through a *saheb* of his office. A few dealers in foreign articles also joined the conspiracy. This is all that has led the District Magistrate to take the violent step of appointing a number of gentlemen of rank and position as special constables.

DAILY HITAVADI

6. The same paper says that the free hand given to the police in the matter of the *Swadeshi* movement has made them extremely oppressive. This is proved by the case in which the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Barisal, has been fined Rs. 5 besides paying the costs of the case, for having maltreated a youth without any cause. "To cut heads with one's hand" is a legendary saying in the Hindu Mythology. But under the auspices of Mr. Fuller's benign Government it is going to be realised by the police in the twentieth century.

BHARAT MITRA,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

7. Referring to the state of things at Andul near Howrah, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 9th December is sorry that the baton rule hitherto followed in East Bengal is gradually finding its way into West Bengal and even into Calcutta since European as well as native constables of Calcutta now and then use their batons on passers-by.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 13th, 1905.

8. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 13th December says that the Police officers are keeping strict watch on all meetings—political, religious or social—that are being held in Barisal. They are keeping Babu Manoranjan Guha, who is now at Barisal, under strict surveillance. The Police cannot trace thieves and dacoits in Barisal, but can ill-treat gentlemen. This does not speak well for the authorities.

SANDHYA,
Dec. 13th, 1905.

9. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 13th December notices two or three cases (those respectively of Pramatha Nath Ghose of village Baganchra, thana Sarsa; of Kedar Pradhan of village Kaniadaha, thana Sarsa; and of Ram Charan Sarkar and his wife of village Tentulbaria, thana Gaighata) of murder in connexion with law-suits about disputed property which have recently occurred in the Bongong subdivision of Jessore, in none of which was the evidence got up by the police against the accused sufficient to ensure conviction in Court. A fresh similar case is reported to have occurred on the 7th December last (that of Debendra Nath Haldar of village Bhulat, thana Sarsa), and it is suggested that as the local police have shown an incapacity in dealing with such cases in the past, they should be reinforced with the assistance of an expert detective brought in from outside in dealing with the present case.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

SAMAY,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

10. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 8th December is surprised to find that the accused Lal Khan and others charged with the offence of having brought two young Muhammadan girls from a village in Jessore to Calcutta have been acquitted after a protracted trial of about six months. Though the evidence against the accused was overwhelming, they got off without any punishment! This is indeed mysterious. The administration of justice in the country has come to a sorry pass indeed!

11. Referring to the recent trial in the Calcutta Police Court of the accused in the Shyampukur disturbance case, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December writes:—

Mr. Kingsford and the Shyampukur disturbance in Calcutta.

HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

We stand speechless with amazement at the unlawful manner in which this case has been disposed of by an English Magistrate, in the heart of the metropolis of the British Indian Empire before the very eyes of a Provincial ruler and the Viceroy. Are we living under English rule, or has English rule given place to the proverbially despotic rule of the *Maghs*? We trust the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Governor-General will be drawn to this case. A terrible feeling of alarm will be created in the minds of the people if perversions of justice like this are permitted to happen in the very metropolis of the Empire, if Magistrates like Kingsford are permitted with impunity to violate the majesty of the law. Will not Mr. Kingsford's advice to the police to bring in charges of rioting in cases like these in future tend to add to the oppressions of the police? It is needless to insist that unless the authorities take immediate measures of redress, the faith of the people in the Courts will disappear wholly. For the sake of the prestige of British Courts of Law, Magistrates like Mr. Kingsford should be at once brought to their senses.

12. Our Hindu contemporaries, says the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 9th December, have been astonished at the conduct of a class of Magistrates like Mr. Kingsford who have been trying to suppress the current agitation in the country by committing injustice in Law Courts. But there is nothing to be astonished at in this, because the English rulers of this country have always been in the habit of creating commotion in it by their own injudicious acts and then trying to establish peace by the help of injustice and oppression. When the fanatical Ghazis of the north western frontier of India began to kill Englishmen indiscriminately, the editor of a newspaper published in England advised the Government to desolate one or two villages as a punishment and a warning to the frontier people.

BASUMATI,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

(d)—Education.

13. The *Malda Samachar* [Malda] of the 6th December calls the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam to interfere with an arrangement which it is informed the Malda District Board is contemplating to reduce its educational expenditure from Rs. 27,000 to Rs. 17,000 per annum. It is urged that this reduction will tell injuriously on the education of a district which is already notoriously backward in this respect.

MALDA SAMACHAR,
Dec. 6th, 1905.

14. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 7th December counsels the student community of Chittagong not to utter *Bande Mataram* in season and out of season, and not to be guilty of the offence of disregarding the wishes of their parents, teachers and others as regards their participation in the *Swadeshi* movement. They are also counselled not to be wanting in proper respect to the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller when His Honour comes to visit the local schools and colleges, and are reminded of the fate which has befallen some of the foremost men of Barisal and Rangpur owing to similar indiscretions of members of their community at those two places.

JYOTI,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

15. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 8th December has an article under the heading "Trampling upon justice, oppression, *zulum*!" in which the writer draws pointed attention to the gross injustice that has been done to the students of the Sibpur Engineering College.

SAMAY,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

16. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December quotes the following as original of part of a circular issued by the District Magistrate of Burdwan:—

HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

The *Bande Mataram* cry at Burdwan.
"The students of this institution are particularly warned not to shout *Bande Mataram* in the public streets, as this conduct

by frightening the horses and causing accidents may make them liable to be arrested by the police," and comments on it thus :—

We never before heard that the uttering of *Bande Mataram* frightens horses. But we have seen asses so to get frightened, as the Burdwan public have also seen, no doubt. Some other creatures also may probably scratch and bite at this sound. There is no need of giving examples just now, for such creatures are now-a-days coming to the front on all sides.

HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

17. The same paper publishes the following criticism of Mr. Risley's letter on the subject of moral education of Bengali students :—

The question of moral education of students.
(1) *The responsibility of parents and guardians in the matter.*—There can be no dispute over this point, and parents and guardians generally do their best to give their boys the best moral education.

(2) *Appointment of good teachers in schools.*—We are glad to learn that Government is trying to have good and conscientious teachers in Government and aided schools. But we do not know how far the arrangements made by the authorities to train teachers will succeed in turning out men of high moral principles. However that may be, teachers should, by their impartial and just conduct towards their pupils, secure the love and respect of the latter. But it is a matter of great regret that in certain Government institutions, such as the Medical College and the Sibpur Engineering College, European and native students are differently treated.

(3) *Selection of good text-books.*—The responsibility in this matter rests wholly on the Government. The authorities say that there is a fairly large proportion of natives on the Senate and Syndicate of the University. But in most cases these native gentlemen do not venture to express their independent opinions against those of their European official superiors. As a result of this English firms like that of Messrs. Macmillan and Company get the monopoly of text-books. The sort of text-books which the boys read now-a-days does not serve to educate their hearts, or teach them true patriotism. Mr. Risley does not say whether Government is trying to remove this defect.

(4) *Messes and boarding-houses for students.*—It is a thorny subject. No one denies that everything should be done to prevent students from going astray. But it cannot be said that every one of such students as do not live in Government boardings or hostels lives in immoral places. As a matter of fact, our students as a body are not open to the charge which Mr. Russell and one or two other gentlemen of his opinion would like to bring against them. It is the duty of the Government to remove all immoral things from the vicinity of students' quarters, and as students generally live near the schools and colleges in which they read, this can be easily done. Government's proposals regarding inspection of hostels and boarding-houses may have been dictated by purely honourable motives, but we firmly say that the greatest care and caution should be taken in the matter. No interference should, in any case, be made with social customs, habits, &c., and it should be seen that hostels and boarding-houses do not become too expensive for students.

In conclusion, there is no question as to the necessity of moral education for students. But the manner in which Government is making arrangements to provide it is not free from objection. The greatest difficulty lies in the selection of text-books, and in this matter the people have no sympathy with the method adopted by the Government. Let the authorities give up this method and select such text-books as are calculated to raise the morals of students and inspire such noble feelings in their hearts as benevolence, patriotism, respect for elders, &c.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

18. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 8th December counsels the guardians of Musalman students to see that their lads do not ruin their future by yielding to a momentary excitement and joining the proposed National University.

Musalman and the National University

19. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th December says that ^{Students and their English masters.} formerly students used to be so well treated by their English professors that they imbibed an attachment to the English people in general, and in course of time this attachment filtrated to other sections of the Indian society. Impressions made on the hearts of boys and young men are seldom wiped off. This is the reason why Indians became loyal to England in spite of the oppressions of the servants of the East India Company. But now-a-days English professors and the authorities of the Education Department arouse, by their conduct, a feeling of revulsion, instead of one of respect, for them in the minds of students. As a result of this, the Indian youths are imbibing a feeling of disaffection against the English. Can the recent treatment of the students of Rafigpur, Madaripur and some other places teach them loyalty to the English?

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 10th, 1905.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

20. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 9th December says that it is not the will of Mr. Allen but of the Prince of Wales ^{The address of the Calcutta Corporation.} himself that the address of the Calcutta Corporation should be read by Babu Nilambar Mukerji as representative of the citizens of Calcutta.

BHARAT MITRA,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

21. The *Swades Hitaishi* [Rangpur] of the 13th December appeals to the ^{An appeal to the Maharaja-dhiraj Bahadur of Burdwan.} Maharajadhiraj Bahadur of Burdwan for the rescue of the inhabitants of about 150 villages from the oppressions of Babu Ramanath Sarkar, Sub-Engineer of the Midnapur district, and also for the excavation of the Chandeswar *khal* (canal) from the site of the *Math* at Gadghat near Ghatal.

SWADES HITAISHI,
Dec. 13th, 1905.

(h)—*General.*

22. The *Santi* [Madaripur] of the 1st December says that the prospect of ^{Government and the Swadeshi.} loss to Manchester and Lancashire has made the selfish English officials stand against the *Swadeshi* movement in spite of their avowed intention and solicitude to improve the arts and industries of the country.

SANTI,
Dec. 1st, 1905.

23. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 5th December writes that ^{The special constables in Rangpur.} the gentlemen who were lately enrolled special constables in Rangpur will be glorified in the future and more honoured than the holders of the titles of Rai Bahadur and Raja Bahadur. This new title is sure to usher in a new era in the country.

TRIPURA HITAISHI,
Dec. 5th, 1905.

24. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 6th December welcomes Lord Minto ^{Lord Minto and the partition.} and prays to His Excellency to open his eyes to the oppressive course which, the writer says, Sir Andrew Fraser and Mr. Fuller are following respectively in the administration of Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam. It is impossible for the Bengalis to remain quiet after such a violent blow to their nationality as the partition of their mother country. His Excellency should graciously consider what the English would do if a part of England were transferred to Scotland. Bengalis are not given to opposing the decrees of their rulers except when such decrees go directly against their religion or severely wound their feelings. They opposed the Age of Consent Bill which has happily, when passed into law, become a dead letter to all intents and purposes so far as respectable Bengalis are concerned. But the wound given to the hearts of the Bengalis by the partition of Bengal will remain sore and continue to give pain so long as it will remain in force. If the administration of Bengal has grown too heavy for a single Lieutenant-Governor to manage it, a Governor may be placed over the province, or two separate provinces may be formed with Orissa, Chota Nagpur and Bihar on the one hand, and Bengal and Assam on the other.

PALLIVASI,
Dec. 6th, 1905.

O Lord Minto, exclaims the writer, you are brave, and it is your duty to save the weak. We implore you to save us in a moment of great distress.

History would point out that the world has not a meeker and more law-abiding and loyal people than the Bengalis. But they are now in agonies for the wound which Lord Curzon has inflicted on their hearts. We are not disloyal. We only object to the partition of Bengal.

If His Excellency rescinds the partition, that will, while maintaining the prestige of the British Government, earn for him an unbounded and undying fame.

The Bengalis never wish evil to the British Government, because they know that they are too weak and incapable to govern themselves and that they can live happily and peacefully under the English. Who is therefore to blame if the authorities persecute them from the suspicion that they are rebels? Will not the future historian paint Mr Fuller's conduct in Rangpur and Barisal in colours blacker than those in which the acts of Seraj-ud-dowla are painted?

Mr. Fuller looks upon the Hindus with poisonous eyes. The latter may well consider it to be their punishment for having been disloyal to the Musalman rule and helped the English to establish their power in Bengal. But what will the world say to it? Did not the Hindus give unquestionable proofs of their loyalty to the British throne in the dark days of the Sepoy Mutiny? Is Mr. Fuller's conduct towards them their reward for that?

Is the *Swadeshi* an unlawful movement? It was believed by the people that the Government which speaks so much for the improvement of the arts and industries of the country will hail the movement. But now they see that they were mistaken. It may be that the movement has led to the occurrence of one or two unlawful acts. But nothing of the kind would have happened if Government had announced itself in favour of the movement. Were it not the Carlyle and Lyon circulars which irritated the students? However that may be, all agitation will again subside if the partition is rescinded.

The Prince and Princess of Wales are coming to Bengal. Allow us, by undoing the partition, to show our loyalty to their Royal Highnesses with joyous hearts.

CHARU MIHIR,
Dec. 5th, 1905.

25. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 5th December condemns the situation at Mymensingh. The account of the situation in Barisal recently penned by the special correspondent of the *Englishman* as shamelessly false and as probably inspired by a desire to vindicate the reputation of the Government. It urges that the disgrace which Mr. Fuller has brought on the English name will take long to wipe off. The public are keenly looking forward to the day when all oppressions will cease, but it seems as if the scenes recently enacted at Barisal are going to be repeated at Mymensingh. Accounts of the oppression which the police committed at the local bazar on the 30th November last were attempted to be despatched to Calcutta by wire, but were refused acceptance by the telegraph office people. Rumours are further current that Gurkhas are about to be posted to Dacca and Mymensingh towns.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

26. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December severely criticises the action of Mr. Fuller in transferring Mr. Thomson, the Magistrate, from Mymensingh, where he was very popular for his kind and sympathetic rule, and appointing Mr. Clarke, a violent anti-*Swadeshi* Magistrate, in his place. On assuming office, Mr. Clarke wrote two letters, one to Babu Shyama Charan Roy, the Chairman of the Mymensingh Municipality, and another to Babu Bipin Bihari Das Gupta, the Head Master of the local Edward Institution, threatening them for their suspected connection with the *Swadeshi* movement. In another letter the Magistrate suspended Dr. Taranath Bal, L.M.S., an Honorary Magistrate, on similar grounds. Babus Shyama Charan and Bipin Behari and Dr. Taranath gave spirited replies to these letters for which hearty thanks are given to them, and every district is asked to emulate the conduct of these courageous gentlemen. The writer sarcastically says that the manner in which Mr. Clarke is making the invincible power of Great Britain felt at Mymensingh will remove the fear of an imminent revolution in that district and compel the local people to throw off in fear their arms, such as sticks, nail-pairers, and even brooms, and surrender themselves to the British *raj*. Is this Mr. Clarke the officer who was once severely censured by the late Mr. Nolan, Divisional Commissioner?

27. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 11th December writes that in these days the officials often excuse many acts on the score of prestige. But the incidents which are now happening in Mymensingh—do they tend to decrease or increase official prestige? Victory or defeat in this sort of struggle means nothing—for the effect is the same in either case.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

28. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 7th December has the following under the heading "Rangpur at Andul":—
Appointment of Special Constables at Andul in the Howrah district. People thought that *Feringhi* pranks would only be confined to Rangpur. But the common sense of the *Feringhis* seems to be somewhat at fault. A few cloth merchants and one scapegrace Brahmin of Andul conspired together and reported to the Magistrate of Howrah that the sellers and buyers of British goods were being horribly oppressed there. Immediately the *Bara-Kotwal*, who is styled *suparitanthan* (Superintendent) in English, went out for an enquiry. The result was that nine gentlemen were appointed special constables and batons and belts were sent to them.

SANDHYA,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

There is no doubt that the illegality of the order of the Magistrate of Howrah will be proved in the High Court. There was no rioting, no violence, yet quite unexpectedly certain gentlemen were ordered to serve as special constables. It seems to us that the *Feringhi hakims* have all gone mad. There lived an insane woman in our quarter whom the sound of the words "Arhar dal and fried brinjal" threw into hysterics. In other respects she was calm and quiet and perfectly sane. Similarly our *Feringhi Kazi sahebs* lose their senses and are quite beside themselves when the cries of *Swadeshi* and *Bande Mataram* reach their ears. For illustrations look to Emerson of Rangpur, Jack of Barisal, and the Kazi Bahadur of Dacca. Another of that class has made his appearance at Howrah, which is just on the other side of the metropolis and from which the steeple of the High Court is visible. Does not this sight even put the Kazi of Howrah to shame? Now, let there be a second awakening. The mistake made on board Mr. Fuller's steamer at Barisal has showered on our heads all these disasters and ignominies. Ye inhabitants of Andul, save your honour this time. Throw away the baton and the belt, and we shall see what the Magistrate and the Police of Howrah can do. Show a little firmness, and we can guarantee that they will kiss the ground. The disgraceful wretches who acted as traitors are of course well known. Let them be put under a social ban, let the barber and the *hooka* be interdicted, let no one hold any conversation with them, and let *Bande Mataram* be constantly dinned into their ears. Water mixed with cowdung should be sprinkled over the roads frequented by them morning and evening by way of purification. This is done only when dead bodies are carried to the burning ghât. But the traitors of Andul are not living beings, they are moving corpses. Let us not be afraid of arrest. The social punishment of which we have spoken is quite legitimate. Now that Carlyle, Fuller and Co., are in the ascendant, the best thing under the circumstances would be to give up all expectation of preserving honour and respect, for nobody knows what will happen on the morrow. Should we lose all regard, if we are arrested illegally? Has *dharma* disappeared? We are quite certain that if one man be arrested thousands will learn to be arrested. But if all men should turn "wise," if all should be engrossed with the thoughts of honour and *ijjat*, then certainly our misery will never end. We are not saying all this like a light-minded person. We have girded up our lions to see the end. Let oppression go on as far as it will go. We will take our stand like lions. What harm if we be sent to jail? The man that will send us to jail will himself lose his humanity, and the man who will suffer will become a god. Fear not, fear not. Let not the inhabitants of Andul be terrified by the oppressions of a senseless Magistrate, and let the *Swadeshi* agitation be kept intact. The traitors should never go unpunished. The auspicious moment has come at last, and we should have the heart to stand up like men. May we imitate the noble example of Rakhal Babu of Dinajpur and learn to set at naught the illegal conduct of the *Feringhi hakim* and the Police.

SANDHYA,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

29. Referring to the appointment of special constables at Andul, the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 8th December writes:—

The special constables at Andul. The oppressions which are being committed in Mr. Fuller's domains inspire a feeling of disgust in the hearing of them. The events which have happened and are happening at Barisal, Raugpur, Mymensingh and Sirajganj are such as make one's blood flow faster in anger at the recounting of them. But we had thought that such incidents were not to happen in Sir Andrew Fraser's domains. But that was not to be. Our quietness and inoffensiveness has encouraged the insolence of the *Feringhi* officials.

We ask if it is the time now to wait and deliberate. Why were not all the belts and batons returned through a Solicitor as soon as they were presented. The penalty at worst would have been a fine of Rs. 50. But we know that this sort of oppression will not be countenanced by the High Court. Why are you afraid? Do nothing illegal. But be a little firm, and then you will bring the *Feringhi* officers to reason. Never purchase British manufactures, even if your lives have to be forfeited thereby. Go on shouting *Bande Mataram*, and punish all traitors well socially.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

30. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th December gives the substance of the report of the special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* on the situation at Andul and

Situation at Andul. the appointment of some respectable people there as special constables. *Swadeshi* meetings in support of the *Swadeshi* have been reported from Delhi, Multan, Kangra, Madras, Santipur, Bankura and Bankipur (female meeting).

JYOTI,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

31. Referring to the prevalence at Chittagong of rumours that certain local men are being marked down by the local officials as prime-movers in inciting students and

Certain rumours at Chittagong. others in connexion with the present agitation and that it is contemplated to bring up Gurkha police to repress them, the *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 7th December appeals to the authorities to publicly declare on whose and on what testimony they are bringing such a charge against a number of innocent, helpless gentlemen. It is amazing that the officials are so readily giving credence to such statements against particular individuals. Who is there in the country who has not joined in all the meetings in connection with the *Swadeshi* agitation and in political agitation generally? The leaders in these meetings have included all the better class of zamindars both Hindu and Musliman. The students have never acted without the advice of these leaders of the country. There are a number of flatterers in the district who possess the ear of the local Government officials. Their names are well known to the public, and as they are always eager to advance their own interests, they cannot and do not ever represent correctly the state of public feeling. It is a number of this class of people who first secretly poison the ears of the authorities against certain leaders of the community, and then return with tales of intended official measures of displeasure for the ears of the public. These men when in the presence of the officials make strong speeches in support of presenting addresses of welcome to the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller, but in the course of private conversations with their own people, declare that their names were appended to the addresses of welcome without their consent.

It is all this which is responsible for the present discontent and difficulties: it is therefore urgently desirable that the authorities should allay the public agitation by making a public statement of what they hear, and against whom, by whom such statements are made, what credence they put in them, and what measures of redress they wish to adopt.

One or two young leaders are being suspected by Government to be active in inciting the students to acts of lawlessness. But, as a matter of fact, the authorities are not aware what strenuous endeavours these gentlemen are really making to keep the students under control. It is the Government circulars which are really responsible for this alleged inciting of students to acts of lawlessness. Let the authorities inquire of the men who pose as their sincere well-wishers and pay court to them, what efforts they have personally made to keep the young lads in order. They claim to be leaders of the country, and they should be held responsible for peace and good order. It cannot

be just that they are to go on basking under the sun of official favour, while poor people have to toil for their daily bread.

32. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 7th December writes that the trading community may suffer a certain amount of inconvenience and annoyance at first in consequence of country-made goods replacing foreign manufactures, but these will be more imaginary than real, and but temporary in duration. But the unnecessary oppression with which Government is now harassing the country is more serious than any such annoyance or inconvenience. It is the fixed idea of the people that a highly beneficial movement of theirs is being stamped out by sheer brute force.

SRI SRI VISHNU-
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

33. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 7th December says:—

"Attempt to stop *Swadeshi* agitation with *lathies*."

Administration with the help of *lathies* was a characteristic feature of the commencement of British rule. Nobody then knew anything of law. Mr. Fuller has now revived the old custom. That the Bengalis are disloyal was never before heard from anybody. There was profound peace all over the country. It was Lord Curzon and Mr. Fuller who have disturbed that peace, and it is now sought to pacify the country with the help of *lathies*. Barisal was the first place where Gurkhas and *lathies* were first introduced, and the same state of things is now spreading to other towns.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

34. Referring to the notice issued by Mr. Forrest, Magistrate of Howrah,

A notice issued by Mr. Forrest, Magistrate of Howrah.

to the effect that persons interfering with or intimidating people purchasing English goods, will be arrested by the police and punished, the same paper says that the notice is illegal, and, as such, it should be at once withdrawn.

SANJIVANI.

Many Government officials are openly putting obstacles in the way of the success of the *Swadeshi* movement. The District Superintendent of Police, Hooghly, is said to have ordered a Police Inspector to enquire whether the shopkeepers of Bhandara Hat were dealing in *Swadeshi* goods through the instigation of any person. The greater the opposition on the part of Government, the firmer will be the determination to eschew British goods. The writer continues:—"We shall openly call upon the people to give up the use of British goods and take to *Swadeshi* articles. If the Government officers oppose us, we shall set their opposition at defiance."

Considering that Englishmen killed the Indian trade in cotton goods, why should not the Indians retaliate? Who can deprive them of the rights which belong to every man? The Bengalis will never purchase British goods let the persecutions be what they may.

35. Referring to the notice issued by Mr. Forrest, Magistrate of Howrah, the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 8th December says

Mr. Forrest's notice.

that it is almost certain that the people of Howrah will be persecuted and oppressed as a result of the notice. The strange conduct of the authorities has really amazed the people. In their attempt to kill an imaginary monster they have really sown the seeds of future trouble. That people are capable of sacrificing their ordinary sense of right and wrong in their zeal to further the interests of their countrymen is being witnessed under the Fraser and the Fuller regime.

SAMAY,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

36. Referring to the notice, dated the 23rd November 1905, issued by the District Magistrate of Howrah, regarding the purchase of British manufactures by the people of that place, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December writes:—

A notice by the Magistrate of Howrah.

This baseless, highly coloured notice is wholly improper and permeated with a spirit of cunning. We ourselves have personally toured through many parts of Howrah preaching in favour of the *Swadeshi* movement, and places which we have not personally visited have been visited by our friends, and nowhere did anybody say in public that Government has forbidden the sale of British manufactures. It is not the Government, but we ourselves who have forbidden in the past and will continue to so forbid in the future. Why

HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

should the people of Howrah obey this illegal order of the Magistrate's? If anybody requests another not to do a thing, neither the police nor the Magistrate has any legal right to interfere, and as to threats, none such have yet been made use of, nor will be. If this request not to buy British manufactures annoys anybody he may go home and nurse his wrath, but a man cannot be arrested for causing such annoyance nor punished without trial. People may buy home-made or foreign-made things at their choice, with which neither the Government nor the *Swadeshi* preacher may interfere. The motive for the issue of notices like these is to frighten many cowards into again taking to buying British manufactures. This trickery is palpable to all.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
Dec. 9th 1905.

37. Referring to the notice issued by Mr. Forrest, Magistrate of Howrah, the *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 9th December says that the people have absolutely no such

sinister motive, as is referred to in the notice, anywhere in the district. The information, which the Magistrate says he has received, has no foundation whatever. The real object of the Magistrate, as revealed in the notice, seems to be to intimidate those who have taken the *Swadeshi* vow, and thereby to compel them to deal in British goods. The language of the notice appears to be dangerously obscure. Are people trying by gentle means to induce others to purchase *Swadeshi* goods liable to arrest? The Magistrate may rest assured that the people of Howrah will never consider themselves bound to obey his illegal and arbitrary orders. They will do their duty to their country despite all oppressions and insults. It is to be hoped the people of Howrah will come forward to take up the earnest work they have taken in hand without being terrified by frowns and threats of the officials.

His Honour Sir Andrew Fraser should order the immediate withdrawal of the obnoxious notice, otherwise police oppression in Howrah will become quite intolerable.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

38. Referring to the notice issued by the Magistrate of Howrah to inform the people that they were free to purchase English goods at their option, and that

the police had orders to arrest any one who would interfere with them in making such purchases, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th December asks, why such a device to punish persons indirectly trying to have the sale of *Swadeshi* goods, and why such a notice from the Magistrate of Howrah in face of Sir Andrew Fraser's frank declaration that His Honour is in favour of the *Swadeshi*?

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

39. Referring to the refusal of Lord Minto to grant an interview to certain native Members of the Bengal Legislative Council, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 7th December says:—

The Viceroy's refusal to receive certain Members of the Bengal Council.

We do not know who advised His Excellency to take such a step. The Hon'ble Members are entitled to represent to His Excellency the present state of things in North and Eastern Bengal. His Excellency was ill-advised to act in the manner he has done, and we hope he will ere long find out that he has been misled.

SANJIVANI.

40. Referring to the letter of the Viceroy's Private Secretary intimating that His Excellency will not receive either of the

The Viceroy's refusal to receive certain deputations.

two deputations of Bengali gentlemen from East and West Bengal, the same paper says that it is apparent Lord Minto has got evil counsellors at his back. This bodes no good to the country. It is a pity that His Excellency should have allowed such a golden opportunity to pass on frivolous pretexts.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 10th, 1905.

41. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th December argues from the recent refusal of the Viceroy to receive proposed deputations and addresses from certain Members of the Bengal Legislative Council and from the Indian Association and the Bengal

Lord Minto's recent refusal to receive certain addresses and deputations.

Landholders' Association, that the people should not expect anything from His Excellency.

42. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 9th December quotes the

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

Lord Minto and the suggested
deputation of certain Members of
the Bengal Council regarding the
situation in East Bengal.

following as the reply which certain Members of
the Bengal Legislative Council recently received
in response to a request which they made for
permission to wait upon the Viceroy to discuss the

situation in East Bengal:—

The 4th December 1905.

From—The Private Secretary to the Viceroy,

To—The Indian Members of the Bengal Legislative Council.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th November, which I have submitted to the Viceroy. I am directed to inform you that His Excellency, while fully appreciating your desire that the Government of India should be in possession of the feelings and opinions of all classes of the community upon current events, regrets that your request cannot be granted. It is, in His Excellency's opinion, obviously unconstitutional for the Governor-General to receive Members of the Legislative Council of one Local Administration for the purpose of discussing the affairs of another province.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. R. DUNLOP SMITH,

Private Secretary to the Viceroy.

and in commenting on it, points out that two of these Members hold their seats as representatives of territories now included in the new Province; so there would have been nothing unconstitutional in the Viceroy talking over the situation in Eastern Bengal with them. Lord Minto has already made himself acquainted with the views of the officials through an interview with Mr. Fuller and of the non-official Europeans through Mr. Hamilton's speech at the St. Andrew's dinner. There remains therefore the views of the native public for His Excellency to get acquainted with. His Excellency's appeal to constitutional considerations as his ground of refusal in the present case encourages a hope that the unconstitutional circular of Mr. Fuller will not receive his support.

43. From Lord Minto's refusal to receive deputations from some of the

BHARAT MITRA,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

Deputation rejected by Lord
Minto.

Members of the Bengal Council as well as the
British Indian and Bengal Landholders' Associa-
tions, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 9th

December infers that evil advisers have already gained access to His Excellency. The reasons assigned for the refusal show that matters have been misrepresented to his Lordship, since Babu Ambika Majumdar and Mr. J. Chaudhuri are the representatives of East and Northern Bengal. Lord Minto should reconsider this point and grant them an audience, if possible, to hear what they have to say. It is the duty of a Viceroy to hear the complaints of the subject-people.

44. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December publishes a poem

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

A poem.

criticising the attitude of the authorities towards
the *Swadeshi* movement and condemning the

appointment of special constables, quartering of Gurkhas, issue of circulars, etc. The burden of the poem is "Say one and all *Bande Mataram*."

45. The same paper writes as follows:—

DAILY HITAVADI.

Mr. Fuller's administrative
policy.

At Barisal Mr. Fuller's passion rose to its climax. Afterwards his tone softened down to some extent, particularly after Lord Minto's arrival at Calcutta.

His recent speeches, although they reveal without a mistake the character of the man's intelligence, show that he is desirous of concluding a peace with the people. Again, at Rangpur and Barisal the authorities have cooled down. At the latter place the Gurkhas have left the town and have been quartered in the adjoining fields where they will most probably remain till the 16th instant, when Mr. Fuller will revisit the town. No wise man will approve of the policy of issuing circulars in the manner in which they have recently been issued in the country. It will not do to govern Eastern Bengal as you govern the Sonthal Parganas. The current imprudent policy should therefore be discontinued at once. It was the

officials themselves who, blinded by power, created the present strained relation between the rulers and the ruled. Even Europeans condemn the policy which Mr. Fuller has followed in Eastern Bengal. The *Statesman* says :—

"The circulars were condemned as impolitic from the outset by the Press, and we state the literal fact when we say that European opinion in the districts affected is unanimous that the local Government has enormously increased the difficulty of its own task in these troublous times by resorting to a very dubious method of ensuring order. The Government did not sufficiently consider the opinion of those most competent to advise in a matter of this kind. Had it done so, it would have found that, not only the educational authorities, but its own executive officers have nothing to say in favour of circulars. No one affects to believe that the powers of the law are not sufficient for the preservation of the public peace."

The above remark is true in its every letter. It is hoped that the Viceroy will bring Mr. Fuller to his senses, relieve the people of Eastern Bengal from the state of panic in which they now live, and allow them to hold lawful public meetings in peace. But we see no prospect of this hope being realised. It can never be a good sign that the officials in Eastern Bengal are gradually becoming more and more despotic in their official conduct. It was therefore expected that Mr. Fuller's recent interview with Lord Minto will have the effect of cooling His Honour down, but it was a vain expectation. Mr. Fuller has not changed. Lord Minto has been trying to gauge the real situation in the country, but he has not been able to achieve the object. He has heard only one party, namely the officials, but does not know what the other party, namely the people, have to say. It is a matter of great regret that His Excellency does not even manifest a desire to hear of the wants and grievances of the people. This is proved by the fact that he has refused to grant an interview to the Hon'ble Babu Ambika Charan Majumdar and the Hon'ble Mr. J. Chaudhuri on the subject of the present condition of the country. It seems that the counsels of Sir Andrew Fraser, Mr. Fuller and other pupils of Lord Curzon have already poisoned His Excellency's mind against the Bengalis. Such one sidedness of view is not praiseworthy. It kills the hope in the minds of the people that Lord Minto will restore peace to the country. We do not know the result of Mr. Fuller's interview with His Excellency. But if it can be judged from Mr. Fuller's conduct it must be said that His Excellency has approved of His Honour's acts. If Mr. Fuller has made His Excellency understand that Eastern Bengal is in a state of rebellion it is no wonder that His Excellency with his military instincts will advise His Lieutenant to adopt hard measures. But if His Excellency has done anything of the kind he ought to have done so after consulting both the parties concerned in the matter. Mr. Fuller is angry because people have not given him addresses, and has determined to show them his power. With this object he has transferred all the old and experienced officers of Eastern Bengal, such as Mr. Inglis, Mr. Scroope, Mr. Streatfeild, Mr. Thomson and others, and appointed his favourite officials in their places. With the help of these officials he has insulted the Queen's Proclamation by issuing a number of illegal circulars. That these circulars are against the principles of the British constitution, even Mr. Pugh, the late Advocate-General, has been obliged to say. Perhaps Mr. Fuller has forgotten that to prevent people from giving out their minds in public meetings and to check their personal independence amounts to encouraging them to form secret societies and make revolutionary conspiracies like those prevalent in despotic Russia. Besides this, Mr. Fuller should remember that there are authorities in England who are above even Lord Minto, and who can call him to account for having broken the law. Do the officials in India desire to make themselves independent of the Home Government, just as the Musalman Subadars (provincial rulers) used to declare themselves independent of the Musalman throne of Delhi at every opportunity? Is it because the authorities in England do not take much interest in the administration of India that the Indian officials dare trample upon the high political principles of Great Britain? Oppression can never make the foundation of an empire strong. It is, therefore, hoped that the authorities in Bengal will desist from oppressing the people by means of unlawful circulars and prevent the creation of a widespread fire of discontent in the country where there is no peace at present.

46. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 9th December has an article headed "The rule of the baton" from which the following extracts are taken:—

BHARAT MITRA,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

Mr. Fuller. The "strong hand" rule of Mr. Fuller in the new province justifies the remarks of the *Bengalee* that the partition of Bengal was sure to result in anarchy in the new province. Really the Bengalis are in a miserable plight. The peace which has so long been reigning supreme in Bengal is now no more, anarchy having taken its place. Can any one now say that the partition of Bengal has not brought on serious mischief? No sooner Lord Curzon left these shores than the rule of baton commenced in various places, such as Sirajgunj, Julpaiguri, Mymensingh, Brahmanbaria, &c., all in East Bengal. * * * The paper concludes the above article with these remarks. At the commencement of the British rule in Bengal, baton rule prevailed here. *Raiyats* were brought to terms by free use of the baton. Their houses used to be pulled down. The sepoys used to be sent to punish the zamindars who failed to pay the revenue. Mr. Fuller is bringing back that time of anarchy in Bengal.

47. The same paper says that the horrible state of things at Barisal will be fully known when the results of the enquiry of Mr. Pugh and the editor of the *Statesman* who had visited that place and interviewed all sections of the community are published.

BHARAT MITRA.

The doings of Mr. Faulkner, the Assistant Superintendent of Police, who arrested a boy 7 or 8 years for crying *Bande Mataram*, and beat a boy of 16 who pleaded for him, are then described. The illegal proceedings of the Magistrate, as described before the High Court by Mr. Hill, the barrister for the gentlemen of Barisal who were prosecuted for refusing to act as special constables, the paper says, excited laughter in the Court.

48. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 9th December writes that in spite of all the inhuman incidents now occurring at Barisal and various other parts of Bengal, it seems as if

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

The situation. the Bengalis will not flinch from the resolution which they have taken up. No matter if public meetings and public utterances of *Bande Mataram* are forbidden, they will most probably manage to find some legitimate way of keeping their promise. For the moment the attitude of the officials has to a certain extent succeeded in silencing all public manifestations, such as meetings, preachings, processions, &c., in connection with the *Swadeshi* agitation; but nevertheless the belief persists in one's mind that success is sure to be achieved by the Bengalis by the adoption of some other procedure of work. Further a change in the present mood of the officials seems no less inevitable. The light of hope still lingers in the public mind that all these illegalities will come to be righted; for permanent injustice is impossible in the British dominions. Affairs are gradually coming to such a serious pass that the higher authorities cannot afford to remain indifferent spectators for long. Mr. Fuller has recently been to Calcutta to see the Viceroy, and it now behoves His Excellency to get an account of the other side of the questions at issue from a number of selected representatives of the people, through a personal interview with them. His lordship has come with an open mind, and the public look to him for justice and fair-dealing. His Excellency's refraining from making any pronouncement on the *Swadeshi* question at the late St. Andrew's dinner after hearing Mr. Hamilton's previous references to it suggests that he is not accustomed usually to form opinions after hearing one side of a case only. In any case, some decision on this question must be come to by the Viceroy or his superiors, and very early too, for things are rapidly coming to a head. The points to be decided are many. Is Bengal really in a state of approaching revolt, sufficient to justify the issuing of *perwanas* by the two Lieutenant-Governors? Are these *perwanas* legal or otherwise? Are the Gurkha soldiers being encouraged as a result of these *perwanas* to committing outrages on peaceful citizens? and so on.

49. The *Dacca Prakash* [Dacca] of the 10th December says that the oppressions committed by the officials on the people of Barisal are going to be repeated in every other district. The cry of agony which has been raised throughout the country is heart-rending. What have the poor people

DACCA PRAKASH,
Dec. 10th, 1905.

Alleged official oppression in Bengal.

done that the tremendous force of the sovereign power should be applied for the purpose of crushing them? Cannot the benign sovereign of India bear the sight of the hungry, half-starved Bengalis making an effort for self-preservation? It makes one shudder to hear of the acts of official oppression which have recently been committed in Mymensingh.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

50. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th December notices the strong measures taken by Mr. Fuller in Rangpur, Dacca, Faridpur, Pabna, Mymensingh, Serajganj, Jalpaiguri and Chittagong.

HINDI BANGAVASI.

51. The same paper is sorry that the horrible news coming from time to time from the mufusal regarding Government interference with the *Swadeshi* agitation, not being contradicted, are producing great consternation among the people. The Commissioner of Rajshahi has angrily told the Raja of Dinajpur and Hari Mohan Babu that they were practising deception by giving an address of welcome to Mr. Fuller on the one hand, while secretly encouraging the *Swadeshi* movement on the other. Is this not a terrible news?

HINDI BANGAVASI.

52. According to the same paper, some people guess that Lord Minto has directed Mr. Fuller, who had an interview with His Excellency the other day, to restore peace in his provinces. How far this is true, events of the next few days will show.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

53. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 11th December publishes the following in English:—
The situation in Eastern Bengal. As was anticipated, Hon'ble Mr. Fuller has thought it fit to disclaim all affinity with Shaista Khan. At Rangpur His Honour gave the people distinctly to understand that he was not a Shaista Khan nor had he any ambition to compete for a Shaista Khan's name. We knew it as surely as we believed in our own existence. So his idle threat at Barisal with reference to the recrudescence of the days of Shaista Khan unless the people mended their ways fell flat upon them. If any concrete evidence were needed to prove the truth of the above statement, it is offered by the monster meeting held at Barisal the very next day after the expiry of the fourteen days interdicted by the local officials for all public meetings. The local leaders gave due notice to the Magistrate and his underlings, specifying time and the place of the proposed meeting, and the police and the Gurkhas, fully armed, attended the meeting and saw no reason to interfere with its peaceful proceedings. One notable feature of that meeting was that our Muhammadan fellow-subjects mustered strong, and some of the leading men of that community took active parts in its deliberations, thereby giving the lie direct to those who would have the outside world believe that there was tension of feeling between Hindus and Muhammadans at Barisal.

Now that the bugbear of the dark days of Shaista Khan has vanished away like mist before sunshine by this positive declaration, we hope to see the days of law and order restored, as also that full measure of liberty of action vouchsafed to us by the British constitution. As a representative of our august sovereign Edward VII, Mr. Fuller is bound to be a ruler of Law and Justice, and not an over-ruler of the same. He cannot and must not allow his subordinates to ride rough shod over Law and Justice upon which the foundation of the British Empire in India rests. We fervently hope to see a speedy return of those happy days when the relations between the *ma bap* officials and the people were, on the whole, most cordial in spite of a momentary tension of feeling here and there. We can say, without any fear of contradiction, we have never before witnessed such a general feeling of unrest pervading all classes of the people as has been caused by the erratic proceedings of the present Government.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 13th, 1905.

54. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 13th December says that it is no wonder that most of the criminal cases brought against the Gurkhas at Barisal have been dismissed for want of identification. The night attack was evidently planned with the object of preventing identification. The unfortunate victims have thus been doubly injured. They were mercilessly beaten and then justice was denied

them. After this no one will perhaps think of bringing a case against the Gurkhas.

Many innocent persons have been fined and others have been punished in Calcutta and in the mufusal because they were suspected of having taken part in riots. Was there any proper identification in each case? But then it must be remembered that nothing is an offence which is done by the gods. In the case of ordinary mortals the case is wholly different.

55. Referring to the report of Mr. Pugh about the Barisal affairs, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 13th December has the following:—

"Shaista Khan II or Nadir Shah, which?"

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 13th, 1905.

We can readily believe that Nadir Shah, the robber chief, used to oppress people for greed of lucre. But can anybody believe that an Englishman could unsheath his sword and hold it over the head of an innocent shop-keeper? Do not the English pride themselves upon saving the people from the tyranny of the Nawabs? Do they not say that in India the freedom of the individual is sacred? But do the incidents at Barisal prove this? Even during the time of Shaista Khan, the people of East Bengal did not suffer so much oppression. The oppression, which the people are suffering under Mr. Fuller's administration, have thoroughly exasperated them. "Is the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller a Shaista Khan or a Nadir Shah?"—this is what everybody now asks.

56. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 7th December writes appreciatively of

In praise of Mr. Maude, lately Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong.

Mr. Maude, lately Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong. He is spoken of as an officer whose impartiality, calmness and benevolence are praised by all who have come in contact with him. All

JYOTI,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

are agreed that the fact that Chittagong has hitherto escaped the political storms now raging in different parts of Bengal is solely to be ascribed to an able man like Mr. Maude having been at the helm of affairs.

57. The same paper in noticing the recent transfer of Mr. Bentinck,

In praise of Mr. Bentinck, lately Joint Magistrate at Chittagong.

Joint Magistrate of Chittagong to Barisal, speaks of his rare independence and impartiality.

JYOTI.

58. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December says that Mr.

Who should be Secretary of State for India?

Morley is the best man to be Secretary of State for India in the newly-appointed Liberal Government in England. After him the Duke of Devon-

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

shire is the fittest man for the post.

59. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December writes expressing regret

The Royal visit.

that the occupiers of all houses on the streets which the Prince of Wales is to drive through on the

HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

night of the 3rd January next are being requested to illuminate their respective premises, since in such cases a request is merely a synonym for a command, compliance with which may cause pecuniary hardship to many. It is suggested that the Royal Reception Committee might come to the aid of such distressed people with a grant out of their funds.

60. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 8th December hears that His Honour

The rumour of the impending resignation of Sir Andrew Fraser.

Sir Andrew Fraser will resign immediately after the departure of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales from Calcutta. As an administrator he

SAMAY,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

has proved a failure, and the arbitrary measures introduced by him make it desirable that he should resign his office as soon as possible. The writer hopes that His Honour will one day repent of his actions.

61. In the Government Report on the Revenue Administration, says the

The Government Revenue Administration Report.

Hindi Bangavasi [Calcutta] of the 11th December, it is stated in one place that interest is not realized from the farmers of certain localities on loans

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

granted to them. This shows that Government is not in favour of such practice, and it is proposed to demand interest on all such loans in future. It has also been admitted in a way that the farmers are generally very poor. Why then insist on demanding interest from them?

62. A correspondent of the *Nihar* [Contai] of the 12th December com-

Oppression upon villagers in Contai.

plains that persons holding lease of the grass growing on embankments are in the habit of impounding cattle of the villagers without any legitimate

NIHAR,
Dec. 12th, 1905.

cause. Unless cattle are allowed to cross the embankments, lands on the other side cannot be tilled. Even if no damage is done either to the embankment or to the grass growing upon it, the lessees send the cattle to the pound. The villagers deserve protection from this oppression. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 13th, 1905.

63. Referring to the circular issued by Mr. Gait to Divisional Commissioner on the subject of associating the District Superintendent of Police with the District Board, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 13th December says :—

These are days of circulars. The authorities have gone mad over the *Swadeshi* agitation. The policy of student persecution is in full swing. But this is not regarded as sufficient. Zamindars are being intimidated, and respectable native gentlemen are being enrolled as special constables. But as no amount of intimidation, persecution and insults has killed the *Swadeshi* agitation, new-fangled measures are being introduced.

Mr. Secretary Gait has issued a strange circular. The Carlyle circular stated its objects in plain language. But in the circular under discussion a curious method has been adopted to hide its real purpose. We hope the Lieutenant-Governor of the new Province will soon discover the beauties of this new circular.

The intelligent reader will no doubt readily grasp the real object of the document. The authorities mean to carefully watch the movements of the respectable inhabitants of villages, and their ulterior object is to encroach upon the independence of District Boards and Municipalities. The astute Sir Andrew Fraser would not say this in plain language as that would appear very ugly. The head of the District Police would by his presence overawe the native members of the Boards and Municipalities and prevent them from joining in any movement disliked by Government. This is the real motive of the authorities.

Sir Andrew Fraser was himself the Chairman of the Police Commission, and the report of the Commission was published long ago. But it was only when the *Swadeshi* movement was joined by the people *en masse*, that the rulers discovered the benefits that would result from an intercourse of District Superintendent of Police with the more respectable members of the native community. Is not this very amusing? But why this policy of hide-and-seek? Government is all powerful, and can do whatever it likes. Government is making itself ridiculous by its attempts to conceal the truth.

III.—LEGISLATION.

HITAVADI,
Nov. 8th, 1905.

64. Referring to the interpellation on the subject of cotton cultivation at the last sitting of the Bengal Legislative Council, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th November writes :—

We are pleased at the Government reply to this question. But we should have been more pleased if His Honour had given expression to some little more zeal in the cause of cotton growing in this country. It may be true, as Sir Andrew Fraser declared, that cotton is little cultivated now in Bengal, but is it not desirable to extend it in future?

BHARAT MITRA,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

65. Commenting upon Mr. Carlyle's reply to the Hon'ble Mr. J. Choudhuri's question in connection with the *Swadeshi*, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 9th December is surprised that while the Government says that it is trying to improve native industries, in reality it is openly doing every thing to arrest them.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

66. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December has a cartoon headed "Milking the cow" in which a figure partly human and partly apish, with a belt bearing the inscription "Maharaj" round its waist and with the letters "K.C.S.I., C.I.E.," written on its tail is represented as sitting astride on the back of a cow on which is written "Native States," and as flourishing in one of his hands a

piece of paper with "my dear friend—G. G." written on it. Pointing to and touching this piece of paper with a stick is a figure in European costume, with "Agent" written over his body, who is in telephonic communication with another European figure (with "G. G." on his coat) seated at some distance and in conversation with a third European figure on the back of whose chair runs "S. S. for India." The cartoon is completed by the representation of another man in European costume, with a belt with the word "Resident" across his waist, engaged with his two hands at the udders of the cow in the act of milking the animal.

The sense of the letter press may be given briefly thus:—

Bravo Maharaja! The Viceroy addresses you as his "friend." What more can you want in the shape of honour; you are like the fabled tree which fulfils all desires, and your cow is being milked. It is for this milk that the Prince is at your doors to-day. All asses among you, come forward, and open your purses, offer a statue to him from whose bitings you still smart.

67. Referring to the subject of Englishmen acquiring landed proprietary right in the Native States, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th December says that when Englishmen are being allowed to acquire such rights in those states the jurisdiction of the law Courts in them should extend to their case as it extends to the case of all other subjects of those States. That will be justice and impartiality. It would not, however, redound to the glory and good name of the British Government to force Native Princes to allow Englishmen to acquire landed proprietary rights in their States and, at the same time, prevent the law Courts of those states from having jurisdiction over them. But it is no use arguing with the strong. The rogue is never in want of a plea.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 10th, 1905.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

68. A correspondent of the *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 5th December writes from Nabinagar to say that owing to excessive rainfall the condition of the local crops is deplorable. The *aus* paddy crop is insufficient. Rice is selling at present for Rs. 5 per maund. Other necessities of life are similarly selling at excessively high prices.

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,
Dec. 5th, 1905.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

69. The *Pratijna* [Calcutta] of the 6th December publishes a poem criticising the attitude of the authorities towards the *Swadeshi* movement, and observing that the English will bring ruin upon themselves if they do not desist from their policy of draining away the wealth of India.

PRATIJNA,
Dec. 6th, 1905.

70. Referring to the accession of the Liberal Party in England to power, the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 7th December says that those people who think that India will fare much better under a Liberal Government than under a Conservative are sadly mistaken. It is a good sign that the delusion is gradually passing away. The people of England, whether Liberal or Conservative, do not think it necessary to trouble their heads about India. The English officials out here have everything their own way. It is a pity that some people yet fail to recognise this. Liberal or Conservative, it is all the same to the Indians.

SANDHYA,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

71. Referring to the return of the Liberals to office, the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 9th December says that those who cannot make their own country give them strength cannot expect others to help them. A little coercion and some amount of force applied through the Gurkhas have cooled down the *Swadeshi* movement and made the big men of our country again seek the shelter of *Feringhis* and beg the ruler to agree to a compromise. All the efforts of the people should now be confined to themselves. It is true that the *Feringhis* will not allow us to improve our arts and industries in peace. It is true that they will rip open our livers and inject Liverpool salt into them. But in spite of all this, Bengalis should not look up to others and be insulted and humiliated.

SANDHYA,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

BHARAT MITRA,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

72. Commenting upon certain Cabinet appointments under the Liberal Government, specially the appointment of Mr. Morley as Secretary for India, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 9th December says that to poor India it is all the same whether a Liberal or a Conservative becomes the Secretary of State for India. The only good that the Liberals ever did to India was that they had the kindness to favour her once with a Viceroy like Lord Ripon.

SANDHYA,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

73. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 7th December says that the Hon'ble Members of the Bengal Legislative Council have received a well merited rebuff by begging for an interview with the Viceroy. These gentlemen cannot give up their mendicant policy. The severe blows dealt by the Gurkhas have somewhat damped their spirits. They now counsel moderation and say that *Bande Mataram* should not be sung too frequently. The treatment they have got will rankle in their breast for some time. But they will soon forget their humiliation and go a-begging to the new Liberal Government and the new Secretary of State hoping to get all they want from them. These beggars are perfectly shameless and their sense of self-respect has quite disappeared.

SANDHYA.

74. The same paper has the following:—

"A certain lecture."

Thus speaks Mr. Fuller's *Dua Rani* (slighted queen)—

O Mr. Fuller, my adored lover, the honey-moon is just over. Wait some-time more, and you will find that the tree of your Hindu wife's love has borne sweet fruit which you will then enjoy to your heart's content, otherwise, in this desert of Bengal your Hindu wife's love will but prove a mirage and reveal nothing but deception. Repeated manifestation on your part of love such as Gurkhas, punitive police, circulars, &c., will fail to cure you of your love-sickness, and you will never become such a lady-killer as you may desire to be.

SRI SRI VISHNU-
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
Dec. 7th, 1905.

75. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 7th December strongly criticises the conduct of certain speakers on the *Swadeshi* agitation in Calcutta, who by their speeches mislead the students into courses dangerous to the latter, but utterly without risk to themselves, and urges the immediate necessity of steps being taken to keep the students from coming within the influence of such speakers. The students should now be induced to stick to their books only.

SRI SRI VISHNU-
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA.

76. The same paper writes:—

Students and political agitations.

What the Government would do if the students joined in the present agitation we hinted at long ago. As a matter of fact our prophecies have been verified to the letter. The Governments in all countries on earth are upset at students joining political movements. In Madras, on various occasions the students were forbidden from joining political demonstrations. Government is making use of a great many arguments in its justification in this connection. Those arguments we do not consider valid. But the following points may be conceded, that without undivided attention and application no study is possible. Secondly, school discipline cannot be correctly maintained if students are allowed to join in politics. But while we concede this we are not prepared to admit that Government in issuing its circulars has been actuated by these praiseworthy considerations alone.

But in our opinion there are other stronger considerations in favour of keeping our students aloof from politics:—

- (1) The students are the future hopes of the country; it is improper, therefore, to distract their attention from application to their studies, and to allow them to join in unsettling public affairs.
- (2) Guardians send their lads to schools for study. They do not wish that their wards should give up their studies and take to mixing in public agitations instead.
- (3) The students will be put to unnecessary harassment at the hands of the police.

- (4) From the point of view of the *Swadeshi* agitation itself, it can hardly be prudent to trust the cause to a number of immature, inexperienced, excitable lads. That Government has been able to get hold of a number of loopholes against the agitation at all is due to nothing else but the natural foolishness of some of the students. For instance, no man of sense would have treated Mr. Streetfield, the sympathetic Magistrate of Barisal, as he was actually treated at Banaripara and Madhabpassa by some foolish lads. The authorities should have laughingly dismissed this conduct of the students out of consideration and contented themselves with a careful warning to their leaders. Instead, they chose to be frightened by it into seeing the first flames of a conflagration like the French Revolution,—a fact which indicates either gross foolishness or madness on their part. There is no use in insisting on these points, because our Government has now been reduced to a condition of mind befitting boyhood. We are wounded to our heart's core at this perversion of sense on the part of Government.

77. The *Jain Gazette* [Arrah] of the 8th December welcomes Their Royal Highnesses on behalf of the whole Jain community in verse from which the following are taken:—

JAIN GAZETTE,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

Welcome to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

Famine is spreading all over the country,

save us from it, O Master!

India was a land of gold once, as they said. Indians have now become beggars and there is mourning in all directions.

Your heart will shake to see the state of India.

Grief, grief, everywhere, there is nothing but grief and the sigh, Ah! Ah!!

O Master, earn everlasting fame here.

Still there is plenty of rejoicing and welcome to you. Oh heir-apparent. Welcome Prince.

The wrecked ship of the Jain religion is lying in midstream.

You are its only Captain, steer it to the bank of safety.

The Jain community welcomes you from the bottom of its heart.

78. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 9th December hopes that His Royal Highness would be pleased to try to know the condition of this country from the natives as

BHARAT MITRA,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

The Royal visit.

His Highness did in Bombay.

79. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th December says that the manner in which the Prince of Wales is making his tour in India is such as will very probably

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 10th, 1905.

The Royal tour through India.

make His Royal Highness acquainted with nothing but the natural scenery of the land. Wherever His Royal Highness goes he is surrounded by officials who never allow him to know the real condition of the country. Famine-stricken places have been omitted from the Prince's tour programme. His Royal Highness will, therefore, know nothing of India even if he tours through the land for four years, instead of four months, in this fashion.

80. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th December having learnt from a Calcutta correspondent of the *Pioneer* that the Bengal Government is anxious to see as large a

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

The Royal visit to Calcutta.

number of school-boys as possible join in all the rejoicings to take place during the stay of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in Calcutta, is unable to understand this political duplicity since the same Government is so much displeased with the students.

81. A lady correspondent of the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 13th December writes:—

SANDHYA,
Dec. 13th, 1905.

The Prince of Wales in Calcutta.

Our future Emperor and Empress are coming to our city. We shall pray for all good

to them at the feet of God, and we shall frankly lay bare before them the miserable pass to which we have come under the hands of their servants. Let nobody be afraid that they will be annoyed or angry at seeing us pained,

sorrow-stricken or impoverished. Can a father and mother abandon their child when they see that child stricken with grief and poverty? That is why I appeal to the daughters of my mother-country, my dearest sisters, my fellow country-women of Bengal, to go to the worship of our Royal pair with the tears of our eyes, with the blood of our hearts, with our most mortifying wailings. How can we, daughters of the unhappy soil of Bengal, forget this, sister.

"Who ever forgets the love of a mother?
In whose blood were you born,
At whose lap are you being nursed into manhood?"

SANDHYA,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

82. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 8th December writes that at present there are two parties in the country, the policy of one of which is to gain its end by begging favours at the hands of Government, and the policy of the other of which is to achieve success by standing on its own legs. The public have lost all faith in the ultimate hope of success of the first of these two parties. People have now come to recognise that no sort of indulgence is to be expected from the *Feringhis*. Honour and the race itself will be lost unless they learn to stand on their legs. The country can never become great by the aid of rights won from the *Feringhis*. For guidance and strength one must look to the sequence of Indian history. All will go for nothing unless courage and strength are gleaned from one's own country. It is these ideas which should be encouraged.

JAIN GAZETTE,
Dec. 8th, 1903.

83. The *Jain Gazette* [Arrah] of the 8th December reports that both the Hindus and the Muhammadans of Mau, district Hasilpur, have abjured the use of imported sugar. The people of Méré and Miana in the Punjab have also made a vow not to use foreign sugar. The paper then in its supplement exhorts its readers who have a grain of pity in them and abhorrence for blood and bones, not to use this sugar which is injurious to health also.

HITAVADI,
Dec. 8th, 1905.

84. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th December hears that high-placed officers are putting pressure on eminent gentlemen both in town and the mufussil to send ladies of their families to the Belvedere *purda* party. Threats, it is said, are being used to the effect that those who will not so send are to be counted as disloyal.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Dec 11th, 1905.

85. Regarding the *purda* party at Belvedere, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th December learns that the officials are bringing pressure to bear upon those gentlemen who are not willing to send their families to attend the Ladies' Darbar at Belvedere, telling them that their refusal to send their families would be considered as an act of disloyalty on their part. What has loyalty or disloyalty to do with this entirely social function? People should be free to act as they like. The officials should not use force or pressure in this delicate matter.

RATNAKAR,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

86. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 9th December writes strongly against an intention which, it is informed, Mrs. N. Das, the Lady Principal of the Bethune College, has of sending a number of selected good-looking young girls of the College Boarding finely-attired to welcome the Prince of Wales to Calcutta. It fears that the guardians of the girls selected will probably be equally against the idea. The Maharaj Kumar Pradyot Kumar Tagore, who is said to have aided the Lady Principal in the work of selection, is counselled to send the ladies of his own family first.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

87. Referring to a recent article on the Partition question in the London *Spectator*, in the course of which it is stated that in Bengal "the men are women," the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 9th December writes that the truth of this allegation may be admitted in respect of the modern generation of Bengali Hindus, but not certainly in regard to the generation of the days, say of Ali Verdi Khan, who, as history tells us, had a large number of Bengali Hindu zamindars as Generals under him, who were of material assistance to

the Nawab in repelling the Maratha invasion of the period, and also in making his attack against Nawab Sarfaraz Khan. It was a Hindu muharrir named Sita Ram Ugani who fought with unwonted bravery against the Afghans when they fell on the castle of the Governor of Bihar. There can be no question then that the Bengali Hindus once knew how to fight and how to die. If the physique of the population has undergone a deterioration under the British régime, the change is to be attributed partially to the general disarmament brought about by the Arms Act and in a large measure to the increasing laxity in the regulation of their lives according to the strict injunctions of the *Shastras*. Strength of mind and body will again come back to the Bengali Hindus, no matter whether they are permitted to use fire-arms or not, if they become Hindus again, living strictly up to the injunctions of their *Shastras*.

The attitude of the English towards their Indian subjects.

88. The same paper dwells on the puzzling situation with which the people of India are now confronted in regard to the policy of their rulers towards themselves. At first the Indians began to get thoroughly anglicised, and it was the Englishman who pointed out that it was wrong for them to forget their own country and give up their own civilisation. Acting on this advice the Indians took to the service of their *Swades* (native land). But at that again the Englishman has now got seriously angry.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 9th, 1905.

89. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 11th December publishes the following in English:—

DACCA GAZETTE,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

Mr. Fuller and the *Swadeshi* movement.

Our rulers are taunted as being a nation of shop-keepers. Nothing is further from our mind than to use it in any bad sense. Shop-keeping instinct is more or less strong with people in these days. The question of loss and gain has a predominating influence in determining one's course of action now-a-days. Our rulers, human as they are, form no exception to the general rule. And certainly the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller does not, according to his own admission. Under these circumstances may we enquire if Mr. Fuller has considered the great question of loss and gain in declaring his crusade against *Swadeshi* at Barisal and elsewhere? Granting for argument's sake that *Swadeshi* meets with a premature death, what will be the Government's gain? The foreign goods will again overflow Indian markets. So much gain to the Government. But at what cost? The key-note of English rule in India is India for the Indians. The people in general have unflinching confidence in the sincerity of the above declaration, but the present line of policy, if persisted with, will give a rude shock to that confidence. Should our Government do anything calculated to shake the very foundation of British rule in India? Is the game worth the powder and shot they are going to spend over it? We pause for a reply.

90. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 11th December is alarmed to

India's future destiny.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

see in the speech of Lord Minto at the St. Andrew's diuner an indication of the necessity of increasing the fighting strength of the country which His Lordship considered essential to ensure the developement of its resources and prosperity of its people.

91. The *Swades* [Calcutta] of the 11th December writes:—

SWADES,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

The English and the Indians; their mutual relations.

What do we gain by entering into a conflict with the English people when we are so ignorant and weak? In such a conflict, as in all conflicts between the strong and the weak, our defeat is inevitable. We have been living under the English for a long time now, but in the course of all this long period, not for a single day did we really awake. It seems that on the present occasion we are partially awakened to a sense of our real condition. Like Kumbhakarna roused from his sleep, we also are eager at the very first moment of our awakening to occupy heaven, earth and hell, all in a day's time. But such haste and eagerness bespeak only madness. One has only to open one's eyes and to look around in order to realise the difference between ourselves and the English people. When this difference is removed, when we attain to equality with the English people, then they on their own initiative will come to honour us, but not till then. It seems therefore that having arguments, quarrels and recriminations on one side, it is our duty in every respect to try to act calmly and with self-restraint.

We should by no means quarrel with the English. Besides the relation of rulers and the ruled we stand to them in the position of masters and disciples. By divine dispensation they have come to teach us. May we like good disciples receive our instruction at their hands. The Japanese occupy their proud position in the world to-day to accepting this sort of discipleship. During their period of discipleship they made absolutely no stir. No lesson can be properly made one's own without self-restraint, eagerness and effort. We possess an opportunity to-day the like of which never came in all our past national life. It is our duty by all means to try and see that this opportunity is not lost by our neglect.

NAVAYUG.
Dec. 11th, 1905.

92. The *Navayug* [Calcutta] of the 11th December refers with strong disapproval to the attack on the editor of the *Indian Nation* in a recent issue of a certain vernacular newspaper, and concludes with the remark that unless something was done to check the unrestrained language with which the newspaper in question is accustomed to review the acts of the officials and to attack men of eminence in the country, it would bode serious ill for the native press generally.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

93. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th December writes:—
It has been the invariable custom with Viceroy's of India to advise the natives to use indigenous goods. The former, however, firmly believed that no amount of advice would induce the natives to eschew foreign-made articles. But now the rulers are amazed to find that not only Bengal, but the whole of India, is determined to use *Swadeshi* goods to the exclusion of foreign goods. Truth to tell, our rulers never bargained for such a result to follow within the brief space of two or three months.

The Government and the *Swadeshi* movement.

Our students freely joined protest meetings against the partition. But the moment they joined the *Swadeshi* agitation, the rulers were seized with a tremendous anxiety for their future welfare. Formerly, Englishmen did not feel insulted when *Sankirtan* parties paraded the streets singing loudly to the sound of drums. But now Englishmen and English ladies are mightily insulted when they hear a boy of seven singing *Bande Mataram*. No animal ever shied at the sound of *Sankirtan* music. But now horses, cattle and asses may become restive at the hearing of *Bande Mataram*! Special constables were not necessary to keep the peace when deadly feuds raged in the country between different sects. But just as the Hindu and the Muhammadan embraced each other like brothers, the authorities apprehended breach of the peace, appointed several innocent gentlemen as special constables, and heaped insults and ignominies upon them. These inconsistencies on the part of the authorities are now apparent to the most casual observer.

The truth is that the one object of the authorities at present is to kill the *Swadeshi* movement at any cost. The Manchester weavers and the Sheffield cutters must be saved from loss, no matter whether the Indian weavers and blacksmiths die of starvation or not. Of course the rulers, who are all adepts in the art of "divide and rule," do not like that there should spring up a feeling of unity between the different races of India. We now see that the interests of the ruler and the ruled are quite antagonistic. If we want to keep our bodies and souls together, the interests of the rulers will suffer; if they prosper we die. Such is now the position. In all countries the prosperity of the people means the prosperity of the sovereign power; but to our misfortune the case is otherwise in this country where the rulers cannot prosper if we are not ruined. It is doubtful if such an antagonistic relation ever subsisted between the rulers and the ruled in any country.

It is a mistake to suppose that the oppressions of the subordinate officers are due to any ignorance of our real condition on the part of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Viceroy. When subordinate officers oppress the people, they do so under orders, direct or indirect, of their official superior. We are now on the two horns of a dilemma. If we proceed with our *Swadeshi* movement we incur the serious displeasure of the Government; if we give it up we are ruined.

94. The same paper publishes the following from a correspondent:—

DAILY HITAVADI,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

"Shaista Khan the Second."

When the proposal to divide Bengal was first mooted, it was sternly opposed by the Bengalis. Lord Curzon then gave the assurance that the schemes, when carried out, would prove a boon to the people. The people of East and North Bengal are now enjoying that boon to their heart's content. But where is Lord Curzon now?

Whatever the Shaista Khan of the twentieth century may say, it is our belief that in future no Lieutenant-Governor will prove as tyrannical and arbitrary as he is. Lord Curzon said that no officer serving in Assam would ever be placed in charge of important districts like Dacca and Mymensingh. But Mr. Clarke has been appointed Magistrate of Mymensingh, and thus the assurance which was given by Lord Curzon has been broken.

During the reign of the first Shaista Khan, rice used to sell in Bengal at eight maunds per rupee; but now rice sells at eight seers per rupee. Many incidents that are now happening in East Bengal would have surprised Shaista Khan I. Most probably any person using foreign goods in his time would have been punished. But under the present administration in East Bengal, people trying to introduce *Swadeshi* goods are being put down as seditious; even tender boys shouting *Bande Mataram* are being prosecuted. Could Shaista Khan I even conceive of such things?

Our Shaista Khan II has taken two begums over and above his Christian wife. But it is the Hindu begum that has forfeited his regard. This is strange considering that the Hindu begums of the Moghul Emperors were always held in the highest esteem.

Shaista Khan of old was highly displeased with the Hindus because Sivaji had cut off his finger. Is it for a similar reason that our modern Shaista Khan is up in arms against the Hindus?

95. The *Samvad Prabhakar* [Calcutta] of the 11th December publishes a poem severely condemning the police, Mr. Jack, Mr. Emerson and Mr. Carlyle for their attitude

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Dec. 11th, 1905.

A poem.

towards the *Swadeshi* movement, and urging Bengalis to stick to their resolution and follow the example of the Russian people who, by persistent agitation and untiring energy, have made the despotic Tsar to give them what they wanted. The Indians must work calmly and cautiously, and a time will come when Providence will smile on them. All the valour and weapons of war possessed by the nation of shopkeepers will then prove of no use to them, and they will acquiesce in whatever the people may do.

96. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 12th December writes that the commerce and education of the country, which are

SANDHYA,
Dec. 12th, 1905.

The control of the education and commerce of the country.

now under European control, must again pass into the hands of the natives of the soil, otherwise there is no hope for the future. If boycott must be organised against the use of foreign manufactures, sacrifices must be made as far as possible to keep up this resolve. Persons who break away from this resolve must be socially persecuted, regardless of risks of official displeasure. There would have been no need of this boycott if the State had come to the assistance of the people by imposing an import duty of 25 per cent, as was done in England, when a 60 per cent. duty was imposed to keep out Indian manufactures. A boycott alone is, however, not enough. Determined efforts should be made to produce things in sufficient quantities in the country itself.

So much for commerce. As regards education those who have sold their souls to the English, so to speak, as a result of the education they have received, must not be allowed any control in educational affairs. Secondly, an immense educational institution must be organised, where the sons of the soil may receive education on truly national lines without having to depend on Europeans in any way.

97. The same paper writes as follows:—

SANDHYA.

Lord Minto.

Every one asks, what sort of a man is Lord Minto? We say, what is the use of knowing that? We are like cows going to be sold. To whomsoever the cows may go, they will receive no more than their usual allowance of grass and water only.

URIYA PAPERS.

GARJATBASINI,
Dec. 2nd, 1905.

98. The Barpali correspondent of the *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 2nd December states that the state of the crops in that State is not hopeful, and that this is due to the unexpected cessation of rain.

GARJATBASINI.

99. The same paper states that the want of water both for drinking and other purposes in the Rorung and Chabiskud parganas of the Puri district has become so great as to demand the immediate attention of the authorities concerned.

GARJATBASINI.

The paddy crop in the Puri district.

100. The same paper states that only eight-anna paddy crop is expected in the Puri district.

UTKALDIPIKA.
Dec. 2nd, 1905.

101. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 2nd December states that the weather is cold, and that it induces cold and fever in the various parts of the Cuttack district.

UTKALDIPIKA.

102. The same paper states that cholera prevails in the Kuasarpur and Bhobaniganj mauzas in the Jajpur subdivision of the Cuttack district, and that about six men succumbed to the disease.

SAMVAD VAHIKA.
Nov. 30th, 1905.

103. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 30th November states that cold and fever prevail in different parts of the Balasore district.

GARJATBASINI,
Dec. 2nd, 1905.

104. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 2nd December states that a wounded tiger is committing havoc in mauza Khalpal in Parjangbis in Dhenkanal, and that it has become very unsafe for the people of that State to proceed to the jungle for very necessary purposes.

UTKALDIPIKA.
Dec. 2nd, 1905.

105. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 2nd December states that the Jajpur town is infested with mad jackals which have bitten both men and cattle. Though some of them have been killed, still the town is terror-stricken. The writer suggests that small bushes and jungles in and near the town that give shelter to these animals should be removed at once.

MONORAMA,
Dec. 4th, 1905.

106. The *Monorama* [Baripada] of the 4th December states that a man while fishing in village Paramaranda in pargana Jasipur in Mayurbhanj was carried off by a tiger, and regrets that no effective measures are taken to remove the depredations made by tigers that are increasing in number steadily. The writer suggests that liberal rewards should be given to those that kill those man-eaters.

MONORAMA.

107. The same paper states that Dina Majhi, a resident of Sunaposi in pargana Barpara in Mayurbhanj was, while working in his paddy field, killed by a wild elephant.

MONORAMA,

108. The same paper states that the Jubaraj of Khariāl is engaged in constructing a machine which, when complete, will catch tigers alive. The people of Mayurbhanj and Khariāl are impatiently waiting for this machine.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Nov. 2nd, 1905.

109. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 29th November advises the Chieftains of Tributary States in Orissa to develop silk industry in their States by endowing scholarships for the training of young men in sericulture.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,

110. The same paper makes an appeal to Mr. Duke, the Commissioner of Orissa, praying for the appointment of some competent domiciled Bengalis as Sub-Registrars, Managers in Garjat States, and Deputy Inspectors of Schools.

111. The same paper states that the Eurasian Station Master of the Balasore Railway station is compelling all Indian clerks, coolies and others serving under him to wear only cloths of European manufacture, and observes that the Indians under him have as much love for India as the station master has for Europe.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Nov. 2nd, 1905.

112. The Puri correspondent of the same paper states that a young Bengali, the son of a pensioned officer, who is the leader of the *Swadeshi* students in Puri, is much discouraged by the proceedings of Government in connection with the *Swadeshi* movement and is trying to shake off the leadership though his followers still cling to him with pertinacity.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

113. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 2nd December regrets to find that a certain number of Bengali traders and others in Jajpur taking advantage of the high prices that ruled in the market of country-made cloths during the last *Astami* festival through the influence of *Swadeshim* indented European cotton piece goods from Calcutta and sold them at cheaper rates making a good bargain thereby. The writer holds that no *Swadeshim* can prosper where union and self-sacrifice do not exist.

UTKALDIPKA,
Dec. 2nd, 1905.

114. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 29th November is strongly of opinion that if the Indians put their whole heart into the cause of *Swadeshim* it is bound to gain and prosper in the long run.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Nov. 29th, 1905.

115. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 30th November learns from its contemporary of the *Prajabandhu* that the people of Fuljhar and Padmapur in district Sambalpur have applied to the Government to have themselves transferred to the province of Bengal, and hopes that the Government will grant their reasonable prayer.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
Nov. 30th, 1905.

116. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 2nd December thanks His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the trouble His Honour takes in educating the people of Bengal in agriculture by establishing model farms in different parts of the country, and by opening agricultural classes in the different schools of the Province.

UTKALDIPKA,
Dec. 2nd, 1905.

117. A correspondent of the same paper questions the wisdom of the manager of the Puri temple in admitting Mr. Mitra, the Collector of Puri, into that temple, as immediately after his return from the temple the Gods and Goddesses had to undergo a *Maghasnan* or bathing ceremony in purification of the temple premises, contaminated by the touch of the distinguished visitor. The editor wants to know the religion professed by Mr. Mitra before passing any opinion on the occurrence.

UTKALDIPKA.

118. The *Monorama* [Baripada] of the 4th December approves of the proposal of a friendly treaty between England and Russia as that will free many an Anglo-Indian mind from Russophobia to which it is subject every now and then. The treaty, if signed and observed faithfully, will free India from frontier troubles.

MONORAMA,
Dec. 4th, 1905.

119. The same paper is of opinion that the Anglo-Japanese Treaty in so far as it affects India is a slight on the loyalty of the Indians, who, under the aegis of British Government are well able to defend their country against all invaders. It is said that Lord Roberts holds a similar opinion.

MONORAMA.

120. Referring to the working and management of the Baripada Branch Railway, the same paper observes that a great loss of revenue is incurred by allowing passengers to travel without tickets and by enforcing low Christmas rates on the line.

MONORAMA.

ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSAN,
Nov. 30th, 1905.

121. The *Paridarsan* [Sylhet] of the 30th November dwells on the necessity of providing expert Veterinary doctors' assistance in the various districts of the Surma and Brahmaputra Valleys, and after thanking the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller for sanctioning monthly scholarships of Rs. 10 for students prosecuting their studies at the Belgachia Veterinary College, goes on to suggest that the amount of this scholarship should be raised to Rs. 25 per mensem, and further that each Local Board should find employment for one of these scholars when they have duly graduated, as Veterinary Surgeon for the subdivision.

PARIDARSAN.

122. The same paper quotes figures to prove that the income of the Sylhet jail has increased beyond expectation in the course of the current year as compared with the past year, and inquires who is responsible for the inhuman *zulum* on the prisoners by means of which alone this extra income can be accounted for. The attention of the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller is drawn to this matter.

PARIDARSAN.

123. The same paper writes that Government has all along encouraged the growth of indigenous industries. One cannot therefore understand why it is now opposing the *Swadeshi* movement which has the same object in view. It behoves all rulers in these days of *Swadeshi* agitation to study the histories of the Roman and Mogal Empires. If Government really believes that the country is in a state of revolution, then it should take care that no ill-feeling is roused between the rulers and the ruled as on the eve of the French Revolution.

The District Magistrates of Rangpur, Barisal, Faridpur and Mymensingh should in these critical times study their Bibles and attend Church regularly.

At the same time nobody can condone excesses on the part of the students, such as the assault on Professor Russell. It is perhaps better on the whole that students should mind their studies and keep aloof from all this agitation. But this opinion is not to be regarded as equivalent to approval of the Government policy of punishing students merely for crying out *Bande Mataram* or for attending a public political meeting.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 16th December 1905.

REPORT (PART II)
ON
NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL
FOR THE
Week ending Saturday, 16th December 1905.

CONTENTS.

	<i>Page.</i>		<i>Page.</i>
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		(h)—General—	
Nil.		'Mr. Fuller's antics'	443
		The situation	ib.
		'The ethics of resistance'	ib.
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.		Barisal affairs	ib.
(a)—Police—		Ditto	444
Andul special constables	441	Affairs in the new province	ib.
Ditto ditto	ib.	Mr. Clarke, Magistrate of Mymensingh	ib.
Ditto ditto	ib.	Mr. Fuller's retrograde policy	ib.
Ditto ditto	ib.	Ditto ditto	445
Ditto ditto	ib.		
The police	ib.	III.—LEGISLATION.	
Andul affairs	442	Nil.	
The Serrajganj Police	ib.		
(b)—Working of the Courts—		IV.—NATIVE STATES.	
The case of Raja Sarada Narayan Singh of Giridih	442	Nil.	
(c)—Jails—			
Nil.		V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.	
(d)—Education—		Nil.	
The last B. L. Examination	442		
(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—		VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.	
Nil.		Advice to the rulers	445
(f)—Questions affecting the land—		Political agitation	ib.
Nil.		Swadeshi cigarettes	ib.
(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation—		Gurkha outrage	446
The Station-Master of Serampur	442	Loyalty and despotic rule	ib.
		The Swadeshi movement	ib.
		The weaving industry	ib.
		The new Secretary of State for India	ib.
		The rulers and the ruled	ib.
		The Purdah party	447
		Persecution and Swadeshi	ib.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

1619. *Power and Guardian* strongly criticises the Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle's action in appointing certain residents of Andul as special constables in view of there being no justification whatsoever for the measure. It is greatly to be deplored that Sir Andrew Fraser's individuality as an administrator is quite extinct, and that he has relegated his powers to his Chief Secretary, who is dragging the fair name of British administration through the mire.

POWER AND
GUARDIAN,
10th Dec. 1905.

1620. The *Bengalee* remarks that the Magistrate of Howrah in his reply to Babu Hirendra Nath Dutta, Attorney, for the special constables, wrote as follows:—"Without these badges of office (which they have returned) they run the risk of not having their special position recognised by unruly persons with whom they may find themselves brought into collision." While thanking the Magistrate for his solicitude on behalf of the special constables, the journal is forced to point out that the insinuation regarding the probability of a collision with 'unruly persons' betrays the same spirit which prompted Mr. Jack to hold out the threat of Gurkha oppression, and may possibly be construed in certain quarters as an indirect incitement.

BENGALIEE,
10th Dec. 1905.

1621. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* wonders that under the circumstances narrated by the District Magistrate of Howrah in his reply regarding the special constables of Andul, he should have thought it necessary to enrol them, despite the fact that they are hard at work from 7 A.M. to 9 P.M. If Andul were really a hot-bed of rowdyism and disaffection, the patrolling of the streets between 7 and 9 P.M. by some over-worked clerks would not mend matters. "The fact is there is inherent evidence in the reply of Mr. Forrest that there is nothing in the state of Andul to justify the measure adopted by the Magistrate."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
11th Dec. 1905.

1622. It appears from the 'official version' of the circumstances attending the appointment of special constables at Andul, writes the *Bengalee*, that this procedure was adopted as a result of there being an altercation between some boys and a shopkeeper who was selling Manchester goods. No one complained save the shopkeeper and this, the journal considers, was an entirely insufficient reason for the enlistment of special constables, for it cannot be contended that the existing police force were unable to deal with a situation so trifling. The proper course would have been to deal with the offenders according to law.

BENGALIEE,
12th Dec. 1905.

1623. Referring to the appointment of special constables at Andul, the *Bengalee* writes that this procedure furnishes a striking departure from the statesmanlike policy which His Honour has hitherto followed in such matters. It is not too much to say that His Honour's own reputation has been jeopardised by this latest mistake of his Government.

BENGALIEE,
13th Dec. 1905.

1624. *Power and Guardian* writes that the Government are directly to blame for the hurtful activity that is being displayed by the police of the new province. Reports of indiscriminate assaults are being received from all parts. They are not merely assaults, but actual raids, in which the police suddenly sally forth and belabour their victims without cause. It cannot be contended that the police act on their own responsibility. The authorities are behind them, and this has created a panic among the innocent inhabitants, who feel that they have no one to appeal to in their distress. The Indian police enjoy a singular reputation for oppression and corruption, and if they are vested with unlimited powers, as is now the case, the province will not be worth living in. Why have the authorities adopted this mysterious attitude? It is time they made known their views on the *Swadeshi* movement, for then the leaders would know how to act.

POWER AND
GUARDIAN,
10th Dec. 1905.

INDIAN EMPIRE.
12th Dec. 1905.

1625. The *Indian Empire* writes that Mr. Forrest, District Magistrate of Howrah, has, like Messrs. Jack and Emerson, been fired with the noble ambition of making a noise in

Andul affairs.

the world and winning notoriety for himself. This official recently issued a circular contradicting a report said to have been issued by the *Swadeshists* and giving the people every facility for buying English manufactures. The real object of that circular was to injure the *Swadeshi* movement, and it has succeeded fairly well, as evidenced by the appointment as special constables of no less than nine gentlemen, all ardent supporters of the movement. Will Sir Andrew Fraser restore this subordinate to his normal good sense?

BENGALUR,
14th Dec. 1905.

1626. The *Bengalee* draws the attention of the Viceroy to the conduct of the Serajganj Police, who have apparently been given a free hand to assault anyone they think fit.

The Serajganj Police.

People of respectability and good social standing have been freely attacked, and the town is practically deserted, business being at a standstill. The journal finds it impossible to believe that these unheard-of measures are being taken with the approval of the Viceroy, and it appeals to His Excellency to protect the people from the vagaries of a discredited administration.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
11th Dec. 1905.

1627. In view of the revolutionary nature of the times, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is not in the least surprised at the way in

The case of Raja Sarada Narayan Singh of Giridih.

which the dwelling-house of Raja Sarada Narayan Singh of Giridih was invaded, under official orders, and his property and cash sought to be taken possession of by the Court of Wards. It will be remembered that the Raja came into collision with the local authorities on his refusing to contribute to certain objects in which he had not the least interest, with the result that the Deputy Commissioner branded him as a lunatic and urged the appointment of a Judicial Commission to decide whether he was of unsound mind or not. In spite of the strongest evidence to the contrary, the finding of the Munsif was that the Raja was insane and incapable of administering his estate. He appealed to the Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpur, who confirmed the decision of the lower Court. The unfortunate Raja next sought the protection of the High Court, and a rule has been issued on the local authorities to show cause why the proceedings should not be quashed and further action stayed. Despite this order from the highest tribunal in the land, the Raja's house, property, and valuable papers have been forcibly taken possession of. Could there ever be a stranger case than this, and will His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor immediately enquire into the matter and put down this gross high-handedness on the part of the Executive?

(d)—Education.

BENGALUR,
13th Dec. 1905.

1628. The *Bengalee* draws attention to the fact that question 3 (a) in the second half of paper No. VII set at the last

The last B. L. Examination.

B. L. Examination, involves a study of Chapter XXXIV of the Civil Procedure Code, which is among the portions omitted for that examination, and hopes that this fact will be taken into consideration when allotting marks.

(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.

BENGALUR
12th Dec. 1905.

1629. A correspondent writing to the *Bengalee* seriously complains of the

The Station-Master of Serampur.

conduct of Mr. Humphrey, Station-Master of Serampur. It appears that on the 8th instant, a party of Indian gentlemen drove down to the station-house in time to catch No. 36 down train for Calcutta. On arrival at the station they paid their carriage fare, but the driver refused to accept it, and was given something more, which apparently satisfied him. The driver, however, appears to have complained to the Station-Master, and while the gentlemen were on the platform awaiting for the arrival of the train, the former appeared with the coachman and told him to point out the Babu. The driver pointed to Babu J. C. Dutt, whom the Station-Master detained and sent for the police, to whom he was made over on

the fictitious charge of creating a disturbance. Assuming that there was a disturbance, was not the carriage driver equally blameworthy and should he not also have been made over to the police? The Railway authorities should undoubtedly take the necessary steps in the matter.

(h)—General.

1630. Mr. Fuller has shown by his recent acts, writes the *Behar News*, that he is unfit for the high post to which he has been appointed. He has conducted his administration in a manner quite unworthy of the race to which he belongs and in utter disregard of the laws and regulations of a constitutional Government. In his uncontrollable wrath he has ruled as a despot, setting at naught the sentiments and wishes of his subjects, and if the cause of this maladministration be looked for, it will be found in his chagrin at the scanty receptions accorded him. Could this have been otherwise, considering the grief in which the partition has plunged the people, who, in addition, have been vilified and insulted by the ruler of the province himself? But this is not all. While the rulers proclaim their attachment to the *Swadeshi*, they on the other hand have left no stone unturned to suppress it outright. To impart Western civilisation to the Indian people, to make them hope for political concessions and industrial prosperity, and then to stifle their aspirations by brute force, is hardly an achievement of which an English ruler should be proud.

BEHAR NEWS.
6th Dec. 1905.

1631. The *Weekly Chronicle* (Assam) writes that owing to his recent 'Satanic display,' Mr. Fuller has caused himself to appear 'not as the embodiment of the best traditions of British rule, but as an eloquent illustration of that bastard imperialism which is sedulously pursuing the policy of losing the good-will and affection of the people.' After all has been said against the studied repression exercised by Lord Curzon and its ill-effects on the growth and prosperity of the people, the new province owes its present degraded position to the 'imbecility and incompetence' of Mr. Fuller. His achievements in East Bengal and Assam are a record of sheer ludicrousness, while his hyper-Russian methods, wholly unwarranted as they are, have only served to aggravate a serious situation, and his heroics are nothing if not revolting. If, then, excitement and disorder are prevailing in the country, it is because Mr. Fuller has aroused the people by hurting their susceptibilities and infringing their rights. In this crisis it is the duty of His Excellency the Viceroy to assert himself and to avert a catastrophe, as the people are determined that nothing that the State can do will drive them from the path of duty.

WEEKLY CHRONICLE,
6th Dec. 1905.

The situation.

1632. *New India* seriously advises the Government to desist from oppressing the people, as nothing that it can do, however outrageous, will make them abandon the *Swadeshi* movement or kill the new national spirit that is everywhere apparent. In any other country the recent attacks by the Government would have resulted in bloody riots, but the Indians prefer to suffer in silence, as it would materially increase the durability of their national life and so further the great cause to which they have sworn eternal allegiance. It would not have been difficult for the people of Barisal to crush "Jack and his Gurkha gang" outright, if they desired to do so. The Government should realise this and take heed that if the people continue to be outraged and molested, it may be found necessary, in the interests of the national cause itself, to change this policy of silent suffering.

NEW INDIA,
9th Dec. 1905.

'The ethics of resistance.'

1633. The *Bengalee* writes that the point most noteworthy in the statements recorded by Mr. Pugh, Solicitor, regarding the state of things prevailing in Barisal is the absence of any evidence in support of the alleged apprehension that the Muhammadans would rise against the Hindus, which indeed is the plea put forward to justify the employment of Gurkhas. If Mr. Jack was so apprehensive of a conflict between these two classes, it is strange that he should have directed all his efforts towards suppressing the Hindus and taken no steps whatever to restrain those whom he expected to be the aggressors. The fact is that the importation of Gurkhas was not merely a blunder, but an outrage

BENGALIAN,
10th Dec. 1905.

Barisal affairs.

upon the Hindus, and any excuse has been resorted to in justification of the measure. In the absence of any proof, however, it would be difficult to persuade the country to believe that the myth about the Muhammadans rising against the Hindus was not an after-thought. It will further appear from the statements recorded that the Captain of the Gurkhas took upon himself the sole responsibility for the recent actions of his men. This is an important admission, more especially as his conduct has yet to be repudiated by the Government. From the incidents of the past few weeks there is no doubt that a 'semi-punitive expedition' has been sent out against the people of Barisal.

BENGALUR,
13th Dec. 1905.

1634. Continuing, the *Bengales* writes that it is amazed at the apathy of the Supreme Government in regard to the state of things prevailing in the new province, and especially in Barisal.

Barisal affairs.

It is true that a great Government is slow to move, but every day lost without relief being afforded, represents additional suffering endured by the people of the 'doomed tracts.' This is a view of the matter which the Government should not and cannot overlook. Some residents of Barisal were advised by Mr. Jack, the Magistrate, to leave the town for a short time, and others were warned that their names had been furnished to the Gurkhas. Are these dark methods worthy of British rule?

The truth is that the authorities are panic-stricken, and this needless exhibition of force, prompted by groundless fears, is not calculated to enhance the public respect for any administration.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
12th Dec. 1905.

1635. Referring to the events that are proceeding in Mymensingh, Pabna, and other districts, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* considers that this state of anarchy must inevitably

Affairs in the new province.

bring serious discredit on British rule in India. If the Viceroy cannot publicly condemn Mr. Fuller's mischievous policy which is being so faithfully carried out by his subordinates, His Excellency should counsel Mr. Fuller to restrain himself. A hint would set matters right. The journal also appeals to the good sense of Mr. Fuller himself, and begs him not to put himself in a false position by playing the rôle of an irresponsible ruler—a rôle quite unsuited to British administration, and which must sooner or later call forth the condemnation of his peers.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
12th Dec. 1905.

1636. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Mymensingh correspondent wires that the District Magistrate has written to Babu Shama Charan Roy, Chairman of the Municipality, and Dr. Tara Nath Pal, Honorary Magistrate,

Mr. Clarke, Magistrate of Mymensingh.

expressing regret for the letters written by him and withdrawing the same on the ground that they were *ultra vires*. It will be remembered that the District Magistrate threatened the Chairman with summary dismissal and actually dismissed the Honorary Magistrate, but both these gentlemen replied saying that he was powerless to dismiss them under the law. Should Mr. Clarke be retained in the district after this humiliating incident? For his own sake he should be sent away to some other district and placed in charge of duties which he can perform without committing blunders or violence.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
13th Dec. 1905.

1637. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is confident that no cultured Englishman can have the least sympathy with Mr. Fuller's

Mr. Fuller's retrograde policy.

present policy, which is nothing more or less than a policy of brute force. Such a policy is alike harmful to British prestige in this country as also to the interests of the people who, in order to safeguard them, must combine against the Government. True statesmen could never contemplate such a prospect with equanimity, but as Mr. Fuller is not to be counted under this head, he feels a keen pleasure in hearing the wails of his afflicted subjects, little thinking that their adversities are making them sullen and desperate. Surely their helplessness is not a reason for the Government to attack them? The English code of honour demands that two combatants should be equally equipped, but what Mr. Fuller has done is to quarter armed soldiers on unoffending and unarmed people. The majority of English rulers could not sanction such violence, and the people should not be without hope in view of the change in the Ministry.

1638. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the conciliatory attitude of the Mymensingh and Serajganj authorities would go to show that Mr. Fuller has been requested to restrain himself and not to trample law and procedure under foot. In fact, it is rumoured that the explanations of the local officers have been wired for by His Excellency the Viceroy. This is not unlikely, as, curiously enough, the authorities have suddenly removed the prohibition imposed on the holding of public meetings and the shouting of *Bande Mataram*. From his utterances and deeds it is clear that Lord Minto is an ardent advocate of constitution, and it was not likely that Mr. Fuller could have gone any great length with his Russian methods.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th Dec. 1905.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

1639. The *Behar Herald* warns the Government of India that they must pay greater heed to the wishes and aspirations of the people, who have persistently preferred their claim to have a larger share in the administration of the country. This claim has been strongly supported by innumerable Anglo-Indian administrators, but Indians continue to be confined to the lowest offices, with scarcely a bare subsistence, and even these are left in their hands from necessity, because Europeans are utterly incapable of filling them. This is not what the country-men of eminent men like Sir Salar Jang, Sir T. Madhab Rao and others had reason to expect. Indians are among the best products of Western civilisation and education, and as such they have a right to claim a larger scope for their abilities, otherwise their pursuit and acquirement of knowledge are purposeless. They are being unreasonably ostracised from the higher appointments, although they are able to fill them with ability, and this hurtful treatment is causing grave dissatisfaction.

BIHAR HERALD,
9th Dec. 1905.

1640. *New India* writes that it is the presence or absence of 'compelling force' that determines the true character of political agitation. If political demands are backed by such force, then the agitation is truly constitutional; if not, it is pure mendicancy. 'The ultimate arbiter in all political conflicts is not right, but might. There may be differences as to the particular method in which this force is applied, owing to the varying conditions of political life, but without the application of some irresistible force, no political fights can, under any circumstances, be won.' The most important question then is how the people can constitute themselves into a power that must be reckoned with. The chief concern of the popular party in India should be to win over the masses, who are at present comparatively ignorant of the aspirations of the country, despite the fact that the Congress, a professedly educating body, has been in existence for no less than two decades. Practically nothing has been done by the leaders since 1887 to communicate their views to the masses, and the Government have profited by this negligence and have done much in the interval to gain the sympathies of the masses. Hitherto the objective of all political agitations has been the acquirement of a few rights and privileges, but in future it must be to gain the active co-operation of the masses, who are the backbone of every country.

NEW INDIA,
9th Dec. 1905.

1641. The *Bengalee* authoritatively denies the *Englishman's* malicious announcement that the *Swadeshi* movement is approaching its death and that the *biri* is a thing of the past, cheap American cigarettes having made their appearance in all quarters of the town. What are unsuspectingly assumed to be 'cheap American cigarettes' are in reality Indian cigarettes. As regards the former, it is interesting to note that no fewer than 4,500 boxes representing a sum of six lakhs of rupees are lying unsold at the Bonded Warehouse. The *biri* industry, on the other hand, is flourishing, and every street and lane is 'honeycombed' with *biri* shops.

BENGALIEE,
10th Dec. 1905.

As regards the sale of Manchester piece-goods, the *Bengalee* quotes the following from its contemporary, the *Capital*:—

"The high prices ruling for cotton, keep bazar values very firm, although there is very little actual business passing. Stocks of nearly all goods are heavy and the consumptive demand is not very brisk. Grey shirtings keep steady. *Dhoties* are still neglected. White goods are dull, with the exception of mulls which are in short supply and show inconsiderable rise in value. For yarns there is a fair inquiry for all counts.

"No forward sales are reported and Manchester telegrams indicate a further rise in costs."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
11th Dec. 1905.

1642. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Barisal correspondent wires that on the 10th instant, a Gurkha suddenly fell upon a *mehterani* on duty in a plantain grove and attempted to

rape her. Her cries attracted notice and the Gurkha ran away. Among the crowd assembled were certain executive officers. The woman's statement has been recorded. The *mehters* are enraged and a strike is apprehended.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
11th Dec. 1905.

1643. The rulers of India, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, contend that they have established peace and civilisation in every part of the Indian Empire and that the

people should therefore be happy and contented. But do the Indians, think in this way? The reply must be in the negative, and the reason is very clear. They have been disarmed, excluded from the army and higher public services, and the authorities, local and provincial, are so many expressions of power and often brute force. They do not feel proud of the mighty British Empire, because they are made to feel that they are not of that Empire. While every other colony enjoys the right of self-government, India alone does not. Official-ridden as she is, she is subjected to all the repressive influences of an alien government. There is thus no joy, no peace in the land, and all is gloom and cheerlessness. This is unworthy of England, and the rulers she sends out to this country should seriously consider whether it is not a better policy to make the people feel less acutely that they are under the yoke of the foreigner.

INDIAN MIRROR,
12th Dec. 1905.

1644. The *Indian Mirror* observes that Lord Curzon's reactionary régime has not been in vain, for it has, quite contrary to

The *Swadeshi* movement. His Lordship's expectations, infused new blood into Indian life and imbued the nation with a proper sense of dignity and independence. The partition of Bengal has been the unkindest cut of all, but nevertheless it has been the means of crystallising idea into action. The *Swadeshi* movement is the immediate product of the 'partition,' and on the memorable 16th of October the whole of Bengal assembled to bestow upon it their fervent benedictions. The movement has spread to every part of the country and has taken a firm hold on the popular mind, to the great detriment of Manchester and Liverpool. The country sees in it the only means of its regeneration, and hence the most strenuous efforts to suppress it must be in vain. A common sorrow unhesitatingly and unsympathetically imposed has moulded the country into a homogenous whole, and the Government are now face to face with a political situation of its own creation. It is, however, the duty of the people to work unostentatiously and whole-heartedly and to perfect themselves in every conceivable branch of knowledge, which, like Japan, they should use for the good of themselves and the motherland.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
12th Dec. 1905.

1645. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* foretells a great future for Bengal as the centre of the weaving industry, if the latter is properly directed and adequately supported. In the

first place, the hand-loom of Bengal should be brought under an organisation and controlled by a body of competent tradesmen, who should employ the weavers in the manufacture of fabrics of special design, which would find a ready sale in the West, where such commodities are rare. At present the hand-loom is out-classed by the power-loom because the weavers are incapable of turning out good work. If, however, they were educated in the art by skilful men and a guild formed with the object of exporting their handiwork, the industry would receive a stimulus that would not be affected by foreign competition.

BENGAL-LEE,
13th Dec. 1905.

1646. The *Bengalee* is of opinion that it is in connection with the grave unrest prevailing in Bengal that the *Times* has characterised the task of the new Secretary of State as a specially difficult one, hoping that 'he may succeed in pouring oil on the troubled waters.' The only way to pacify Bengal is to reunite it, and it is in the hope that this may be accomplished that the country rejoices at the appointment of Mr. John Morley as Minister for India.

INDIAN MIRROR,
14th Dec. 1905.

1647. In a lengthy article the *Indian Mirror* condemns the present relations between the rulers and the ruled, and considers that it is due on the one hand to the

The rulers and the ruled.

immoderate utterances of the latter, and on the other to the unduly repressive measures of the former. The journal earnestly looks forward to the establishment of harmony and peace, and with this object urges the leaders of the people to eradicate the existing feelings of racial bitterness as, entertaining them, it is almost insuperably difficult for an entirely dependent race to rise in the national scale. The people should be in the good books of their rulers, for then it would be comparatively easy to carry on the work of the country without serious hindrances. The Government, on the other hand, should realise the danger of rendering an ardently loyal race inimical towards it, and keep alive the best traditions of the British Government by allowing the people the free right of speech and action. Constitutional agitation is a safety-valve of the State, and when once this outlet is choked, the Government must be prepared for secret societies, political intrigues, disturbances, etc.

1648. The *Bengalee* states on good authority that undue pressure is being

BENGALIE
14th Dec. 1905.

The *Purdah* party.

brought to bear on the heads of the highest Hindu families in the province in order to make them send their ladies to the *Purdah* party to be held at Belvedere in honour of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales. This extraordinary behest of the 'Lord of Belvedere' has cast a gloom even over the most loyal households, but it has nevertheless taught Indians one lesson, namely, to shun intercourse with officials. Would officials have dared to coerce Muhammadan families in this manner? Certainly not, but the Government know that the Hindus would submit to anything.

1649. The *Bengalee* is confident that no amount of persecution can kill

BENGALIE,
14th Dec. 1905.

Persecution and *Swadeshi*.

the *Swadeshi* movement and as a proof of this cites the case of Madaripur, where official boycotting has been most strenuous. In this subdivision there are two salt warehouses, each of which contains between 10 and 15 thousand maunds of Liverpool salt, but as a result of the attitude of the district authorities one is now empty and the other contains only two maunds of English salt. In both the warehouses a large stock of *karkatch* salt has been laid in. Similar results have followed official interference all over the province.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.
OF POLICE, L. P.

WRITERS' BUILDINGS,

The 16th December 1905.

F. C. DALY,

Asst. to the Insp.-Genl. of Police, L. P.

